OPEN HOUSE GUESTS, WELCOME TO MIT!

MIT's Oldest and Largest Newspaper



WEATHER, p. 2

FRI: 72°F | 45°F

Mostly sunny

SAT: 64°F | 46°F Mostly sunny

SUN: 66°F | 48°F Mostly sunny

Volume 131, Number 23 tech.mit.edu Friday, April 29, 2011

Alec Lai resigns as UA VP-elect

Citing frustrations with UA leadership, Lai leaves 2 posts

By Rebecca Han STAFF REPORTER

This past Wednesday, Alec C. Lai '13 submitted a letter to the Undergraduate Association (UA) and undergraduate student body, resigning from his positions as UA secretary general and vice president-elect. Lai expressed general discontent with what he perceived as a lack of respect and cooperation within the student government, particularly aimed at authority figures whom he considered "megalomaniac[al]."

This stands in contrast to the high hopes Lai harboured during his campaign in March 2011. Lai also hinted at what he saw to be a negative turn in his relationship with his running mate and president-elect Allan E. Miramonti '13, post-election: "I don't know if it's personality, or what, but the change has surprised me." In a March 7 interview with The Tech, the pair had been "confident in our ability to work as a team ... we complement each other well."

Now, a month later, Lai has not communicated with Miramonti since his resignation. Lai says he had mentioned the possibility of his resignation to Miramonti in prior conversations. "It came up twice," said Lai. "If he didn't take me seriously, it's not my fault."

Miramonti issued a statement to The Tech yesterday, thanking Lai for his past contributions, and touched on the UA's next step. "Rest assured, [we are] poised to have an active and beneficial year," wrote Miramonti. "[I] will continue to search for people with a drive to improve student life at MIT. The Judicial Committee is currently working on how best to fill [the vice president-elect] vacancy, and I will move forward once that process has been decided."

According to UA President Vrajesh Y. Modi '11, the Judicial Board will interpret the UA Constitution and explain what steps need to be taken.

"I gave some people a heads-up, and I believe there are many people who can fill in my secretary general role," said Lai. "As for my position as Vice President-elect ... I fundamentally disagree with the principles of the [UA] society so I feel it would be inappropriate for me to have my hands all over what happens."

Asked why he had persisted in running despite what he saw "frustrations throughout the year," Lai said he had considered the setbacks to be "a learning experience ... even if I disagreed, I thought 'well, if I stay on for a few more months, then it's almost our turn to take charge." According to Lai, the final straw was what he foresaw

UA resignation, Page 19



Students throw colored powder in celebration of the spring season at MIT's Holi celebration on Sunday, Holi is celebrated widely in South Asia. For more photos of the event, p. 10.

First MIT open house in 30 yrs.

MIT opens its doors to the curious and inquisitive world

By Pearle Lipinski

NEWS AND FEATURES DIRECTOR

Tens of thousands of the public are expected to descend upon MIT's campus tomorrow for the Institute's first open house in over 30 years.

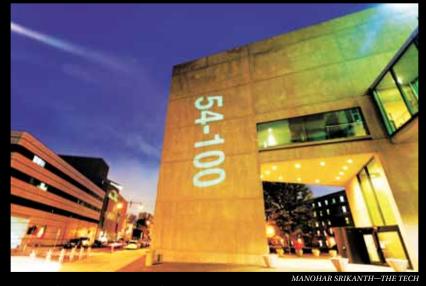
"It is possible that 20,000 to 30,000 people or more will be on campus for this wonderful day," wrote John DiFava, director of facilities operations and security, in a letter to the members of the MIT community.

Plans have been made to accommodate from 10,000 to 50,000 attendees; in comparison, commencement usually has around 10,000-13,000 attendees. This number is estimated from replies to invitations sent to Massachusetts school districts, the estimated attendance of the Cambridge Science Festival, and looking back at the previous open houses, according to Paul A. Lagacé '78, open house co-chair.

Good weather is expected to draw more

Lagacé, who was a student during the Institute's last open house in 1980, said that the planning for this year's open house reaches back to President Susan J. Hockfield's inauguration in 2005. "We started talking about [an open house again in terms of the MIT150 celebration, and it made a lot of

Open house, Page 17



Night of Numbers, a set of lighted numbers with special significance to MIT, was installed on buildings across campus by Praveen Subramani G and Anna A. Kotova '10 for the MIT150 FAST Arts Festival. It uses LCD projectors to put these special numbers and related phrases in the Wiesner Building plaza

Cambridge-MIT Exchange shrinks

Program will field fewer students

STAFF REPORTER

Along with the rest of the U.K., the Cambridge side of the Cambridge-MIT Exchange (CME) Program is facing financial troubles this year. The number of students that the program can admit this vear dropped to 15 each from Cambridge and MIT, down from 20-30 each in past years.

According to Malgorzata Hedderick, Associate Dean of Global Education, the U.K. education sector faced significant cuts amidst the economic downturn. As a result,

Bv Leo Zhou the University of Cambridge was forced to make cuts, and terminated the central-level funding for the CME program.

Because Cambridge as a whole will no longer fund the CME program, each individual department will need to find its own funding to continue sending students to MIT.

The engineering department was the only department at Cambridge able to find funding for their students. According to the department's website, support from BP has enabled them to send 15 stu-

CME, Page 16

The farmer's market has moved to the East Campus Courtyard. Fresh produce will still be available every Tuesday from noon to 6 p.m.

Several parking lots will be closed for the open house on Saturday April 30. Visit the MIT Facilities website for a list of closings web.mit.edu/ facilities/transportation/ index.html.

Baker House piano drop will be this Saturday at 4 p.m.

Wellness Week ends today. It's your last chance to grab free breakfast until 10 a.m.

Send news information and tips to news@tech.mit.edu.

UNDERSTANDING THE GENDER GAP

and on the Landau Building.

Keith Yost and Michael Veldman spar off on one of MIT's toughest problems. OPINION, p. 6

MUSIC, MUSIC, MUSIC

Our arts writers have been busy this month. ARTS, p. 14-15

A-M-A-Z-I-N-G

Once again, MTG's Spelling Bee spells our socks off! ARTS, p. 14



アニメボストン

The Anime Boston convention is more than just anime — characters from across the pop culture world showed up. p. 13

ZONING PETITION RELEASED

See MIT's vision for the future of Kendall Square.

NEWS, p. 18

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After storms kill hundreds, south tries to regroup

TUSCALOOSA, Ala. — A day after enduring a terrifying bombardment of storms that killed hundreds across the South and spawned tornadoes that razed neighborhoods and even entire towns, people from Texas to Virginia to Georgia searched through rubble for survivors Thursday and tried to reclaim their own lives.

At least 291 people across six states died in the storms, with more than half — 204 people — in Alabama. This college town, the home of the University of Alabama, has in some places been shorn to the slab and accounts for at least 36 of those deaths.

Thousands have been injured, and untold more have been left homeless, hauling their belongings in garbage bags or rooting through disgorged piles of wood and siding to find anything salvageable.

-Campbell Robertson and Kim Severson, The New York Times

Move to CIA puts Petraeus in conflict with Pakistan

ISLAMABAD, Pakistan — The appointment of Gen. David H. Petraeus as director of the Central Intelligence Agency puts him more squarely than ever in conflict with Pakistan, whose military leadership does not regard him as a friend and where he will now have direct control over the armed drone campaign that the Pakistani military says it wants stopped.

Pakistani and American officials said that Petraeus' selection could further inflame relations between the two nations, which are already at one of their lowest points, with recriminations over myriad issues aired publicly like never before.

The usually secretive leader of the Pakistani army, Gen. Ashfaq Parvez Kayani, has made little secret of his distaste for Petraeus, calling him a political general. Petraeus has privately expressed outrage at what American officials say is the Pakistani main spy agency's most blatant support yet for fighters based in Pakistan who are carrying out attacks against American troops in Afghanistan

Officials on both sides say they expect the two nations' relationship to become increasingly adversarial as they maneuver the endgame in Afghanistan, where Pakistan and the United States have deep and conflicting security interests.

Repairing the frayed ties between the CIA and Pakistan's primary spy agency, the Inter-Services Intelligence Directorate, will be difficult, American officials say. "In its current form, the relationship is almost unworkable," said Dennis C. Blair, a former American director of national intelligence. "There has to be a major restructuring. The ISI jams the CIA all it wants and pays no penalties."

—Jane Perlez and Eric Schmitt, The New York Times

PC sales off, games unit buoys Microsoft earnings

SAN FRANCISCO — Microsoft, once the dominant technology company, saw revenue from its core operating system software slip in the first three months of the year as consumers begin to shift to buying tablet computers that do not run on Microsoft coffware.

While Microsoft reported Thursday that its fiscal third-quarter profits were up 31 percent, revenue from the division that includes the Windows operating system fell 4 percent, to \$4.45 billion.

The fall was due in part to an overall decline in PC sales worldwide of about 3.2 percent. Analysts have partially blamed the earthquake and tsunami in Japan, a big market for computers.

But the sales of tablet computers, like the iPad, were another major factor and that could become a persistent problem for Microsoft. The category of the tablet computer created by Apple and its iPad is expanding quickly. Apple has sold 19.5 million iPads, and all the big PC makers and cellphone makers are making tablets.

—Verne G. Kopytoff, The New York Times

Carter criticizes US for withholding N. Korea aid

By Mark McDonald

THE NEW YORK TIMES

SEOUL, South Korea — Former President Jimmy Carter, after a 48-hour visit to North Korea, sharply criticized the United States and South Korea on Thursday for their refusal to send humanitarian assistance to the impoverished North, saying their deliberate withholding of food aid amounted to "a human rights violation"

Carter, who was not traveling on behalf of the U.S. government, had been invited to North Korea for discussions with senior political and military officials as a way to perhaps ease tensions on the Korean Peninsula, which he said were "at rock bottom."

Carter, 86, traveled with two other former presidents, Mary Robinson of Ireland and Martti Ahtisaari of Finland, and former Prime Minister Gro Harlem Brundtland of Norway. All four are members of the Elders, an independent group of world leaders established by Nelson Mandela.

Robinson echoed Carter's concerns about what she called the "very

serious crisis" over food supplies in North Korea because of a harsh winter, severe flooding, and an outbreak of foot-and-mouth disease. She said the withdrawal of U.S. and South Korean food shipments had aggravated the already-dire situation, which had become, she said, "a matter of life-and-death urgency."

Brundtland cited a lack of running water in hospitals, even in maternity and pediatric wards, and a deep shortage of what she called "essential medicines." She said a third of all North Korean children were stunted because of malnourishment, which "also permanently affects their brain development."

Carter and his group had asked to meet with the North Korean dictator, Kim Jong Il, but they were rebuffed. On their way to the airport Thursday, the group was called back to the guesthouse where they had been staying in Pyongyang, the North's capital, for what they were told was an urgent message.

They were greeted there by Kim Yong Nam, the head of the North Korean People's Assembly, who read them a written message from Kim Jong Il. The letter told the visitors that he was amenable to a summit meeting with Lee Myung-bak, the South Korean president.

"He sent word he's ready to negotiate with South Korea or the U.S. or with the other five powers on any subject at any time and without preconditions," said Carter, making reference to the other members of the so-called six-party talks that focused on the dismantling of North Korean nuclear programs. The six-party process ended in 2009 when North Korea withdrew.

Carter and his group were also denied a requested meeting with Lee, the South Korean president.

South Korea has insisted that North Korea apologize for the sinking of a warship, the Cheonan, which killed 46 of its sailors last March. The apology has become a precondition before South Korea will hold substantive bilateral talks with the North.

North Korea has denied any role in the sinking, and Carter said Thursday that senior North Korean officials told him they would "not apologize or admit culpability for the Cheonan incident"

Florida Republican congressman Allen West gaining star power

By Jennifer Steinhauer

THE NEW YORK TIMES

FORT LAUDERDALE, Fla. — Often, the most interesting thing about a person is the characteristic that lies beneath, that hidden thing that bobs up along the waves of time.

But the most compelling part of Rep. Allen West of Florida is his own biography, there for all to see: an African-American, Tea Party activist, zealously pro-Israel Republican congressman, who, after his beloved career in the Army ended under a cloud, defeated the sitting Democrat in a largely white, politically-polarized district here and quickly became one of the right's most visible spokesmen.

West's fans in his district, which stretches over two counties along the east coast of Florida, are both numerous and loud; hundreds fill his town hall-style meetings, many of them favoring T-shirts bearing his image. At a recent Tea Party rally in Washington, supporters flocked to him like sea gulls to a crust of baguette. Among the 87 House Republican freshmen, he ranks third in the latest fundraising period for his re-election campaign; his \$433,551 haul came largely through individual donations.

West's popularity among conservatives goes far beyond south Florida. He was chosen to give the keynote speech last February at the Conservative Political Action Conference and is frequently featured on the Fox News Channel and on other conservative venues where he enjoys explaining, reiterating, or unleashing any number of incendiary remarks concerning what he often calls "the other side."

There was his recent observation that liberal women "have been neutering American men," and that the president of the United States is a "low-level socialist agitator." West scoffs at the notion he has become a sensation.

"I don't drink my own tub water or read my own press," he said in a brief interview before a town hall-style meeting here this week. "I tell the truth and I stand on convictions and you know what you're getting."

While West's decision to cast himself as an iconoclast has made him a conservative star, it is unclear how well it will serve him as he seeks re-election next year in this swing district, where far more voters are likely to come out for a presidential election than in the midterm cycle.

With its two new congressional seats, Florida will likely receive intensified national attention among swing states in 2012, perhaps highlighting this district — which was central to the disputed 2000 presidential recount — as one of the best tests of the Tea Party's endurance outside reliably Republican districts.

WEATHER

More than 270 killed in tornado outbreak

By Austin DiOrio

Wednesday, April 27, 2011, now marks the date of the second-deadliest tornado outbreak in U.S. history, with over 270 confirmed deaths. Two days ago, more than 165 tornadoes were reported across the southeastern U.S. stretching from Alabama to Virginia. The strongest storms impacted Alabama — the death toll in that state alone may soon top 200. This devastating act of nature ranks only second to the "Super Outbreak" of April 3, 1974, in

which 310 people lost their lives from 148 tornadoes stretching from Michigan to Alabama.

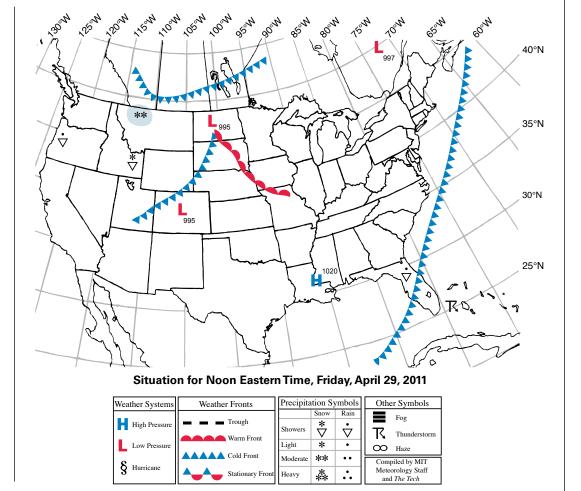
Spring provides the most favorable conditions for tornado development in the U.S. Large temperature gradients over the continent and warm, moist air from the Gulf of Mexico are the key ingredients for the formation of strong thunderstorms and tornadoes. Even so, this April looks to be uniquely active. With nearly 900 confirmed tornadoes already, the old record of 267 stands to be shattered.

Extended Forecast

Today: Mostly sunny. High 72°F (22°C). West winds 15–20 mph.

Tonight: Clear. Low 45°F (7°C). Winds abating to 8–12 mph. Tomorrow: Mostly sunny. High 64°F (18°C). Winds out of the NW at 5–10 mph. Nighttime low of 46°F (8°C).

Sunday: Mostly sunny. High 66°F (18°C). NE winds 5–10 mph. Overnight low of 48°F (9°C) with a slight chance of showers.



Bomb strikes Moroccan cafe, killing mostly foreigners

By Michael Slackman and Souad Mekhennet

THE NEW YORK TIMES

A powerful bomb blast in a crowded Moroccan cafe killed at least 14 people, wounded dozens of others, and shattered the relative calm in a corner of the Arab world overwhelmed by uprisings and deadly government crackdowns.

The bombing was timed to maximize fatalities in one of North Africa's most popular tourist destinations, striking the city of Marrakesh as crowds sat down for lunch. The attack appeared to be the work of a suicide bomber, though there was no immediate claim of responsibility, according to a senior intelligence official who requested anonymity because he was not authorized to speak to the media.

News agencies reported that at least three Moroccans and 10 foreigners, including several French citizens, were among the dead.

The explosion blew out the front and the roof of the Argana restaurant, in Djemma el Fna square, a public space in the heart of Morocco's cultural capital that is regularly packed with vendors and tourists. The crowds filling the square Thursday as the tourist season began were knocked back, then frozen in shock from the blast and then the scene as ambulances and the police rushed

"There was a huge bang," one tourist in the square, Andy Birnie of London, told The Associated Press. "There was debris raining down from the sky. Hundreds of people were running in panic, some towards the cafe, some away from the square."

Images from the square showed the devastation of the attack: the cafe floor splattered with blood, a body beneath a blanket, rubble blown out into the plaza, which was packed with people surveying the destruction.

The bombing was as deadly as it was perplexing. Although it bore the hallmarks of radical Islamists, Marwan Shehadeh, an expert in such movements, said he would not have expected Islamists to attack because the government recently gave in to some of their demands and released some militant leaders. He also said that the attack on civilians was inconsistent with the work of a separatist movement, Polisario, in Western Sahara, which has focused over the years on government targets.

However, Mansouria Mokhefi, who heads the Middle East and Maghreb program at the French Institute for International Relations, said it was possible that al-Qaida in the Islamic Maghreb, the network's North African affiliate, might have felt compelled to attack "as a way of reminding people that they still exist" at a time when secular protesters are dominating the world news.

The official Moroccan news agency said King Mohammed VI sent his condolences to the families of the dead and offered to pay for burials. President Nicolas Sarkozy of France issued a statement condemning the bombing, which he called a terrorist attack.

Though Morocco has remained relatively calm, especially when compared with the civil war racking Libya, it, too, has festering domestic conflicts. It has struggled in recent years against the spreading reach of Qaida-aligned terrorists operating in North Africa. In 2003, 33 people were killed in five simultaneous bombings attributed to radical

And the separatist movement in Western Sahara to the south, which has been aided by Algeria and Moammar Gadhafi of Libya, is decades-old.

Like other North African nations. Morocco has been concerned about the possible spillover from the violence and chaos in Libya, worrying that militants could get hold of weapons more easily. And in recent months, like much of the region, the country has seen increased calls for democratic reform.

The king is relatively popular, having pushed for some political and economic liberalization and increased women's rights since taking power 11 years ago when his father died. Still, the king continues to wield absolute authority on all political matters.

As the Arab Spring rolled out, he responded to protests in Morocco with promises to meet many of demonstrators' core demands for change, including allowing for a more representative Parliament and an elected prime minister. But he has yet to deliver.

Now Thursday's attack threatens to stress the nation's already troubled economy and its roughly \$8 billion tourism industry. More than 9 million people visited the country last year, according to statistics from the state news agency.

Shehadeh, the expert in Islamic extremism, raised the prospect that the government would point to the violence as a reason to delay its promised reforms - a move that officials have not themselves raised.

As wedding nears, London awaits spotlight on the royals

LONDON — As last-minute preparations drew to a close, London braced Friday for a royal wedding that promises to be one of the largest and most widely watched events here in recent

The police expect that hundreds of thousands will throng the city's streets for the morning wedding of Prince William and Kate Middleton, craning for a glimpse of the royal family and the 1,900 other dignitaries gathering at Westminster Abbey. The crowds themselves will be watched by 5,000 police officers, according to the Metropolitan force, and an estimated 8,500 journalists and support staff from around the world are also present.

Hundreds of millions more worldwide are expected to watch on television, and dozens of temporary studios, filled with presenters speaking as many languages, have been built against the backdrop of a floodlit Buckingham Palace.

And Britain's National Grid, the company that provides the nation's electricity infrastructure, has estimated that 400,000 kettles will be boiled in households here after the royal couple exchange their vows, as the domestic television audience celebrates with cups of tea.

Westminster Abbey, the ancient white church overlooked by the Houses of Parliament, has been transformed by four tons of foliage, including eight 20-foot-high English field maple trees. A final wedding rehearsal took place there Thursday morning.

-Ravi Somaiya, The New York Times

John Paul's sainthood, like his papacy, proves polarizing

VATICAN CITY — Starting Sunday, Pope Benedict XVI will preside over the biggest spectacle since his own installation in 2005: a beatification Mass that will move his adored predecessor one step

The beatification is widely seen as a way not just to honor Pope John Paul II but also to energize the Roman Catholic Church after a rough patch. Yet, like John Paul's 26-year papacy itself, it has already become intensely polarizing.

For one thing, Benedict waived the traditional five-year wait and began the process just weeks after John Paul's death, and critics across the Catholic spectrum have questioned the haste. Others say the vast sex abuse crisis that came to light under John Paul is grounds against sainthood. On Saturday, at least one victims' group is planning a worldwide protest.

Defenders, however, say the beatification is simply the formal seal of approval for a wildly popular pope who helped bring down Communism and whom many Catholics already consider a saint. The festivities are expected to draw hundreds of thousands to Rome, the biggest crowds since 2005, when cries of "Santo subito!" or "Sainthood now," erupted at John Paul's funeral Mass.

—Rachel Donadio, The New York Times

US envoy says rights in China 'backslide'

By Michael Wines

THE NEW YORK TIMES

BEIJING — The chief U.S. representative to human rights discussions with China offered a cheerless portrait of those talks after their conclusion Thursday, saying the United States was worried by "a serious backsliding" of freedoms in China and at loggerheads with Beijing officials over many aspects of the issue.

"Our disagreements are profound," the envoy, Assistant Secretary of State Michael H. Posner, said at a news conference at the U.S. Embassy here in Beijing, even as he expressed optimism that China's rights ituation would improve over time

In the two days of talks this week, however, Posner indicated that Chinese officials offered few if any concrete responses to U.S. queries about the conditions of the human rights and legal activists who have been seized or imprisoned by Chinese authorities. And he said that the talks, while "respectful in tone," were colored with new seriousness on both sides by the perception that disagreements between the nations had widened.

"I don't think anybody stood up and said, 'Oh yeah, things have gotten worse,' except me," he said. But, he added, "there's no question that the atmosphere is different, because the facts are different."

Since imprisoned dissident Liu Xiaobo was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in October, Chinese authorities have detained, imprisoned or harassed hundreds of critics, lawyers, bloggers, writers, and other gadflies deemed a threat to the state's security. The pace of detentions and harassment accelerated markedly this spring after prodemocracy uprisings in the Middle East prompted an anonymous online campaign for a "jasmine revolution" in China.

In the discussions, Posner said, U.S. officials raised special concerns about a growing crackdown on lawyers who defend human rights advocates and dissidents. They included Teng Biao, a lawyer and professor who has not been heard from since he vanished in February; Chen Guangcheng, a blind self-taught lawyer and civil rights activist who has been under house arrest since September; and Gao Zhisheng, an internationally recognized rights lawyer who vanished in April 2010 shortly after having been freed from a previous confinement.

The officials also asked the Chinese for information on Ai Weiwei. the artist and social critic who has not been seen since he was seized this month. and Liu Xiaobo's wife, Liu Xia, an artist and poet who has been held incommunicado in the couple's apartment since her husband was named a Nobel laureate. And they asked about Xue Feng, an American geologist sentenced to eight years in prison in July on charges of stealing state secrets after he bought a database on China's oil industry.

Posner did not detail the Chinese response to each case, but his description of the government's answer to queries about Ai appeared to be the norm.

"On that case," he said, "we certainly did not get an answer that satisfies. There was no sense, no sense of comfort from the response or the language."

The annual human rights dialogue, a staple of the diplomatic relationship, has long been a irritation to the Chinese.



M I T 1 5 0 SYMPOSIA

Brains, Minds and Machines



Tuesday-Thursday May 3-5, 2011

Kresge Auditorium

This symposium is inspired by the old dream of understanding the mind and the brain, which was at the core of several new fields created at MIT during the '50s and '60s. The same dream is now the main motivation for a new Intelligence Initiative (I2). The Brains, Minds and Machines events will run over three days, with panel talks involving several Nobel laureates and personalities from academia and industry.

The symposium sessions will include:

- Roots of Artificial Intelligence, Cognitive Science, and Neuroscience
- Vision and Action
- Language and Thought
- Social Cognition and Collective Intelligence
- Nature and Nurture
- Consciousness and Intelligence
- The Marketplace for Intelligence

More information

A complete program and registration information are available online: mit150.mit.edu

Mir

Registration available onsite; free for MIT faculty, staff, and students.

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EDITORIAL

Resignations warrant UA reform

Fundamental changes are needed to strengthen student government

Leaders of the Undergraduate Association must respond to the resignation of vice president-elect Alec C. Lai '13 on Wednesday by redoubling their efforts for organizational restructuring. Lai's letter of criticism (reprinted on p. 5) amplifies previously noted frustrations about undergraduate governance and its leaders, but it does not substantially alter our interpretation of the problems in the UA. It should not derail the new committee on restructuring, which is currently the UA's best bet for moving beyond their current challenges.

Undergraduate governance faces two major problems: Student representation structures are overlapping and redundant, and undergraduates tees function. The UA — whether restructuring happens or not — needs to ensure that 1) Student representatives who serve on committees with faculty and administrators understand what their role is, and 2) Undergraduates at large understand how committees work, what they do, and how to contact student representatives. It should be a trivial process for any student to find out who represents their voice at MIT; today, we're not convinced most undergraduates would even know where to start.

The UA, then, is at a critical time in its history. In order to address core undergraduate governance issues, the UA recently attempted — and failed — to pass a sweeping

In addition to understanding the general student perspective, the UA and DormCon should listen closely to voices of dissatisfaction from within their respective organizations.

— understandably — don't understand how their governments are designed to represent their interests.

Nearly every student at MIT is represented by multiple bodies (e.g., fraternity brothers are represented by both the Interfraternity Council and the UA), and it is not clear where one organization's responsibilities begin and another's end. Undergraduate leaders, especially in the UA, find themselves in the unenviable position of needing to represent competing interests simultaneously. A complicated undergraduate governing structure at MIT also makes it difficult for student representatives to have productive, reciprocal dialogues with MIT's deans, staff, and faculty leadership. The Dean for Student Life should know exactly where to turn in order to understand student opinion — be that a single undergraduate leader or a small, cohesive, efficient body.

We are also concerned that most students don't understand how representative bodies are designed to represent their interests. It is not clear to students how UA policy committees and Institute Commitconsolidation of student representation structures, effectively absorbing DormCon into the UA. Opponents to the plan, including members of this editorial board, have raised reasonable concerns that the process was moving too fast and did not take the time to integrate sufficient input.

However, reform is still imperative. In addition to understanding the general student perspective, the UA and DormCon should listen closely to voices of dissatisfaction

MIT, they must constantly turn a critical — yet constructive — eye inwards.

To that end, the UA must earn the time and commitment of their members. The atmosphere and personal interactions that all UA members face must resonate with what we suspect are the members' own goals: improving student life at MIT.

Above all else, the UA must avoid the kind of acrimonious debate that has characterized some of their restructuring process so far. With intense commitment to an organization like the UA, we understand it can sometimes be easy to lose perspective. But at the end of the day, the UA is about student government; nobody's life is on the line. UA members must be respectful to other UA members, even amidst disagreements. Pure, unadulterated criticism of others — especially in an all-volunteer organization — is the road to failure.

While not as pressing, we also call on the UA — and other student governments — to adopt a similar approach with the deans, faculty, and staff at MIT. Having understanding, functional, and professional relationships with MIT officials who make student policy is the best way for a student organization to make the kind of progress they seek.

Restructuring efforts must keep these principles at heart, and those on the current restructuring committee must remember the fundamental reason they joined student government: to improve student life. The common ground on all

The atmosphere and personal interactions that all UA members face must resonate with what we suspect are the members' own goals: improving student life at MIT.

from within their respective organizations. A string of recent UA resignations, culminating in the vice president-elect's on Wednesday, underscores serious organizational problems. To be clear: Every student organization has problems, and that will not change. The UA is not and will not ever be perfect, but in their role as student representatives of

sides is larger than some may think, and the restructuring committee should remember not to stray far from it. A revised, improved UA will unite students, bring them together, and fairly resolve important campus policy questions. While they have a long road ahead of them, undergraduate leaders should find comfort in the value of their purpose.

CORRECTIONS

An article published Tuesday incorrectly stated that IDEAS Competition teams competed for \$15,000. Any team could receive a maximum of \$25,000 through a combination of three types of awards: IDEAS Awards (\$5,000, \$7,500, or \$10,000); Global Challenge Juried Awards (\$10,000); and Community Choice Awards (\$5,000). Winners will be announced on Monday at 7 p.m. in Kresge Auditorium.

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Why I'm resigning

Pervasive negativity and bureaucracy demotivate members and undermine the UA

By Alec C. Lai

The Undergraduate Association (UA) is currently in a state of turmoil and change. Internal conflicts have hindered the UA from performing at its full capacity. Recently, the UA decided to focus on governmental restructuring, convinced that the current structure is the root of the problem. That, however, is not the main issue that the UA faces. The following casts light on the psychosocial situation.

First, many members of the UA do not have respect for the Association and its members; these members include some of the higher decision makers in the UA, influencing the entire group with their negative attitude, one that is surely not conducive to teamwork. Those that are considered "incompetent" are quickly disparaged, discouraged, and even discarded. We do have a relatively young Senate and Exec this year, as presented in the State of the UA speech at the beginning of the Fall 2010 semester, but this was a chance to take the time and effort to cultivate new leaders. To my dismay, the lack of such spirit has led to a multitude of resignations instead.

Though this inherently poses a problem, it would be less of one if the **leaders were** not so megalomaniacal. This arrogance creates a pervasive attitude within the UA to belittle and dismiss rather than to foster cooperation with other members. We see that when a mistake is made in Senate, many members do not hesitate to mention, and sometimes humiliate, the person that made the mistake. This prevents the many new members that are still learning the ropes from participating. We claim that senators are too quiet and don't speak their mind on issues but are quick to dismiss their opinions if they do speak up, creating an impossible environment for them to gain confidence and leadership skills. As an example, verbatim minutes were mandated this year, in my opinion, not as a form of archiving history but as one to hold people (both administration and members) accountable for every word said.

The combination of these factors leads to the bureaucracy that has come to characterize the UA. Many officers are more involved with hoarding their power than to cooperate and reallocate their time and effort for the betterment of the actual organization and of the student body. This has lead to instances of blackmail, threats, manipulative ploys, and many more underhanded actions that have no place in the UA. To be an effective leader of an organization of voluntary participation, one must learn that he or she is not there to provide strict orders. One must lead by guidance and inspiration, for the best way to get ef-

fective volunteers is to appeal to their potential and passions within — maximizing consonance and not dissonance.

The effect does not only stop with internal matters. The defensive and arrogant psychosocial nature of the UA extends to policy and communication with the administration. The UA, as a result, seems often unwilling to cooperate with the administration. It seems like we'd rather fight with the administration than to come up with new ways to benefit students as a team. As mentioned in our original platform, the UA can no longer act as a reactive and defensive force; it needs to be one that proactively seeks to collaborate and establish trust in the administration. This, to some members of the UA, would be perceived as a statement of naiveté, but I find it more a statement of truth that needs to be embraced.

such changes, they would utilize their powers to damage my status, not only in the UA but also the greater student community. Accordingly, I have decided to resign in both capacities, as the current UA Secretary General and the incoming UA Vice President.

Certainly, I can imagine the numerous rebuttals from the UA and members of the student body: "Your idealistic thoughts are those of naiveté, not practicality; this is clearly an expression of inexperience." "I think you hold some truth in your arguments, but the leadership has told me differently." "Your actions may or may not be true, but such a public resignation and declaration shows lack of foresight." Even, "Your efficiency with minutes was recently called into question; what makes you capable of speaking on behalf of the students if

their leadership and hold the UA accountable for the hostile environment that has been created.

Finally, as to the recent accusation against my capability as Secretary General, I can assure that this resignation has nothing to do with that occurrence, but is rather a compilation of thoughts that have built up over the semester. If anything, I was unable to continue in my full capability as Secretary General because there was little concern and assistance for the amount of work that goes into my full range of responsibilities (lack of a collaborative spirit), and the hostile and accusatory working environment and leadership have removed any passion that originally pushed me through my position.

For those that have chosen to hear me out, thank you, and I hope that you have gained some insight into the state of undergraduate leadership. I sincerely hope you hold the incoming administration responsible for it. As for those that hoped for me and my above vision to be part of the next leadership, rest assured that I have not given up my passion and dream for providing opportunities and programs that enhance student life. Instead, I will be working in a different capacity, outside of the UA but directly with the administration, to continue to provide for the undergraduates next year.

As for some concluding remarks on responsibilities, any unfinished minutes that I have taken under my position as Secretary General will be completed. In addition, I ask that the student body not hold the incoming President, Allan E. Miramonti '13, responsible for my particular contributions to our platform (enhanced communication, strategy sessions, and the UA Help Desk), as I will no longer be assisting in those projects.

The UA has become a bureaucracy that has largely been unable to function as a team, both internally and with the outside administration.

— Alec C. Lai

FORMER UA VICE PRESIDENT-ELECT

Overall, the UA has become a bureaucracy that has largely been unable to function as a team, both internally and with the outside administration. There are certainly instances within committees and in certain institute committees where teamwork flourishes, and we see brilliant results, but the leadership at large does not seem capable of such collaboration or willing to adapt such a new system. Arguments, barriers, and blockades are consequences of the above attitudes; humiliation of others and an unwillingness to change become the standard ways of enacting and maintaining forms of positional power. Consequently, rather than representing the interests and passions of the student body, the UA has evolved into a playground for these elected leaders to stroke their own egos.

When I ran for vice president, I genuinely hoped that the UA would be open to moving toward teamwork and collaboration, both internally and with the administration, with an emphasis on leading by inspiration and motivation.

To my dismay, both the current and the incoming UA leaders have recently made clear that they do not even think these are fundamental problems for the UA. Incorrect directions and methods for the recent restructuring and continued arguments over positional power are just a few such examples. Furthermore, they were not and are not willing to collaborate with me on considering such changes. In fact, more than once, key figures in the UA have voiced that, were I to attempt to facilitate

you can't even handle that?"

To the first point, as I have previously assured, my decision is not one of naiveté but one of identifying a prevalent problem I believe many officers are unable to admit. We choose to investigate structure or some tangible means of change, but in reality the problem lies in the treatment and respect of the members of the organization.

To the second point, are you on the fence because others who have achieved higher positions than you or I or who have had more experience in the organization said otherwise? Trust your own perspective on the matter. Did you enjoy working with the seniority or was it a relationship of fear or pressure? You do not need to make a public statement to jeopardize your position, as would certainly happen in the current state of the UA, but think carefully about how the UA has made you feel. That's what the UA needs more of: an adherence to our **internal moral compass**, not practical politics.

"Your actions may or may not be true, but such a tremendous resignation and public declaration shows lack of foresight." I may be a rising junior, and I may only have had one year of UA experience. I may have won an "unopposed" election that puts my qualifications into question. Nonetheless, I know that the UA is there to advocate for students. The current UA administration has made a claim of maximizing transparency so that the students know exactly what we're doing. I make these statements so the students may understand the exact state of

The UA needs more adherence to our internal moral compass, not practical politics.

Thank you very much again, undergraduates, for your faith in me and for reading this lengthy letter. I deeply apologize for needing to make these resignations, but I will definitely continue to assist the undergraduate student body. Most of all, I hope the UA will take my parting comments seriously, as a direction for improvement. The UA has taught me a lot over the past year in proper leadership, and I hope my final statement will be able to guide the UA in

Alec C. Lai is the former UA Vice President-elect and former UA Secretary General.

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POINT COUNTERPOINT

Intelligence variability is

not gender-dependent Why the Greater Male Variability hypothesis is not an established fact

By Michael Veldman

STAFF COLUMNIS

It is certainly understandable that many men feel that they must go on the defensive in the ostensible intellectual battle of the sexes. After all, we have been hearing for years about women surpassing men in college graduation rates, mean GPA, and income. Wait, one of those doesn't belong, does it?

Indeed, when I was a boy of around 12 or 13, I was filled with righteous indignation that there was no such thing as a "masculist." Most of the highest GPAs in my middle school belonged to girls. At various times I was told point-blank that girls were smarter than boys. "Who will defend us poor guys against the aggressive expansion of female achievement?" I despaired.

Fortunately, I have since grown up. I cannot say the same for someone who declares the very real phenomenon of cultural misogyny to be an "invisible bigotry." I will now assume the role of the "angry mob," presumably the unthinking reactionaries out to get the daring, truthseeking proponents of a theory that society is too politically correct to even give a chance.

To start off, it is absurd to suggest that if for every woman complaining of unequal treatment there is a man saying "no, everything's just fine the way it is," then the jury must be out on institutionalized sexism. Following this logic, since for every poor single mother who needs help to survive and raise her children there is a well-off person saying they'll be fine if they just pull themselves up by their bootstraps, we can't justify giving any governmental assistance. And because every black person who says they experience racism is complemented by a white person declaring reverse racism, everything must even out so there's no racism on the net; this logic works genuine miracles!

But now allow me to examine this Greater Male Variability (GMV) hypothesis in more detail. The hypothesis states that male intelligence is more variable than that of females. As far as I can tell, it was first suggested in 1894 by Havelock Ellis and was most recently brought to public attention after it was endorsed by economist and former Harvard President Larry H. Summers '75. Undoubtedly, the idea that male intelligence has a flatter distribution than female intelligence has a great deal of support. The trouble with the hypothesis is that the evidence is not nearly as consistent as Yost would have you believe. For while it is true that many studies in various countries show greater variability in intelligence for boys, this is by no means universally true.

First, this effect is not consistent across race: A 2008 study using Minnesota state math assessments showed that at the 99th percentile, the male-to-female ratio was 2.06 for Whites, but 0.91 for Asian-Americans. There were more math-proficient Asian girls than boys.

Second, it is not consistent across countries: In a 2003 Trends in International Mathematics and Science study. one-third of the 50 participating countries showed either no significant disparity among variances between girls and boys or a disparity showing greater variability among girls. For example, while the variance ratio — a measure that is exactly what it sounds like - for boys versus girls in the U.S. was 1.19, in the Netherlands and Denmark the ratios were 1.00 and 0.99 respectively. If the males really do have greater variability in intelligence (generally and specifically in respect to mathematical ability), and this is in our genes as Yost postulates, shouldn't the phenomenon be observable everywhere?

Among studies specifically geared toward the mathematically gifted — perhaps most apropos to our venerable Institvte's policy — we may look to the Study of Mathematically Precocious Youth (SMPY). The SMPY researchers identify

children 13 years of age and younger who are mathematically advanced and administer the SAT to them. Near the program's inception in the early 1980s, the ratio of boys to girls who scored above a 700 on the math section was 13-to-1; in 2005 it was 2.8-to-1.

If you scoff at a 700, even for a 13-yearold (as I suspect you might), we can look at the truly exceptional level. As demonstrated by Hyde and Mertz (2009), nations' performances on the 2007 Gender Gap Index correlates (r=0.44, p<0.05) with the proportion of girls on their International Mathematical Olympiad teams for the past two decades. They also offer explanations for the SMPY results: 1) increased immigration of Asians and Eastern Europeans have brought with them their cultural norms, 2) secondwave feminism and Title IX have opened math and science opportunities to girls in all levels of education, and 3) girls are taking more mathematics and science courses in high school due to changing graduation and college-entrance requirements.

Perhaps studies of children are not sufficiently satisfying, so let's look to the awarding of PhDs in physical sciences and mathematics. In 1970, women accounted for 8 percent of such mathematics degrees and 5.5 percent of those in the physical sciences. In 2006 those numbers increased to 32 percent and 30 percent respectively; currently, women account for 48 percent of all mathematics degrees in general. Interestingly, physics shows far more abysmal numbers, a trend that is not well understood; according to the American Physical Society, women still only earn 12 percent of PhDs, compared with 3 percent 30 years ago.

On the whole, it would seem that the slow progress of Western society has had some effect on the number of women in the highest echelons of scientific and mathematical ability and achievement. Given that we are by no means at the level of perfect equality, we have reason to suspect that the admittedly inconsistent gender disparities in variability may one day vanish altogether.

But maybe all this progress is just political correctness and affirmative action. Still, one of the major reasons it is impossible to make any meaningful conclusions is that almost all studies of sex differences in intelligence - with all their inconsistencies - have been conducted in the West. To illustrate why broader testing might complicate things, consider the results of a recent test of non-verbal ability given to 2,700 sixth graders in the Philippines (Vista and Care, 2011). They found no significant differences in mean intelligence (a typical result) but found that males had greater variability in the upper half of the distribution, while females had greater variability in the lower half of the distribution.

Further, the GMV hypothesis may not even be necessary to account for the greater number of far-below-average males. There is still a genetic explanation, but more mechanical than due to specific encoding on the Y-chromosome and/or its consequent effects on the expression of other genes. For example, Fragile X syndrome is a major cause of mental disability and is a result of a mutation of the FMR1 gene on the X-chromosome. Its incidence is lower in females despite the irrelevance of the Y-chromosome because females have a "spare" X-chromosome that often has the functional FMR1 allele.

I will not deny that there is a great deal of support for the GMV hypothesis — and we certainly shouldn't shy away from an uncomfortable conclusion simply because it doesn't jibe with our preconceived notions — but because the studies that support it, especially the famous study of Scottish children, come from societies steeped in gender norms that favor the results the studies produce, it would be disingenuous and premature to consider the case closed in the face of a stubborn body of evidence that supports a totally different conclusion.

It's good to be king Innate ability may explain gender gaps

By Keith Yost

STAFF COLUMNIST

In 1999, the Committee on Women Faculty at MIT released a report claiming that there was significant gender bias at MIT. Women made up a minority of the Institute's professorship, and on average were paid less and allotted less lab space; the report alleged this was due to a "subtle but pervasive bias" against women at the Institute. In response, the administration began a concerted effort to recruit more women and increase the pay of female professors. They succeeded, though at the cost of convincing many that women were being given an unfair advantage.

Today, the committee is gearing up for another push. A new report claims that while significant progress has been made, the subtle bias still exists, and more work (read: policy favoritism) is still needed to correct for the prejudices of MIT staff.

At face value, the activism is not unwarranted. Even if pay and lab space have equalized, women still make up less than 20 percent of the faculty of the Schools of Engineering and Science. Perhaps there is even a case to be made for bias at the admissions level: in the School of Engineering as a whole, male students outnumber females by more than 2-to-1, and in some areas, the skew is even greater; male mathematics graduate students outnumber females by almost 4-to-1, and male graduate physics students outnumber females by almost 4.5-to-1.

And yet, there is something deeply suspicious about the "subtle bias" that is supposedly responsible for keeping women down. It's difficult to point to any hard evidence supporting the claim that prejudice is the root cause of gender gaps at MIT, and the soft evidence is mixed for every woman with an anecdote about how the Institute has not given her what she deserves, there is a man with the opposite perception. Moreover, even if the soft evidence were not mixed, the plural of "anecdote" is still not "data" - empirically unsubstantiated claims of systemic bias are not a compelling basis upon which to make radical policy changes. And Veldman can draw all the trend lines he wishes between 1970 and today — the fact that Susan B. Anthony had to fight for suffrage does not mean that Susan Hockfield has been denied the opportunity to reach her full potential.

What then of the skewed gender ratios? Aren't they evidence themselves of bias?

Perhaps. But that is just one hypothesis. And before we launch into a second round of increasing favoritism shown to women (while adamantly claiming that we are doing anything but), let's entertain at least one other hypothesis, that the distribution of men and women in the upper echelons of science and engineering is not due to an invisible-and-unspoken conspiracy, but instead is due to something simpler: there are simply more smart men than there are smart women.

I hear the sounds of an angry mob already.

Let's start by taking for granted that men and women, on average, are virtually identical in intelligence, even as it applies to areas like math or science. This is a pretty safe position — most of the literature puts men no worse than women, and a decent chunk even puts them ahead, claiming a point or two of higher IQ for men.

Let's also take for granted one other point, that measured IQ scores are a very strong predictor of outcomes in life. *The Bell Curve* by Herrnstein and Murray is the magnum opus of this position, but a hundred other studies could serve in lieu of it.

Now let's add in one final factor: suppose the variability of male intelligence is higher than that of women. This idea has quite a bit of support in the literature, and since the point I am trying to make is highly controversial (it cost Larry H. Summers '75 his job), here is a laundry list of supporting studies: Deary, Thorpe, Wilson, Starr, and Whalley (2003) looked at a 1932 IQ test administered to nearly all 11-year-olds in Scotland and found no statistically significant difference in

mean IQ, but a statistically significant difference in variability in male children. Hedges and Nowell (1995) performed a metastudy of national IQ tests from over a 32-year period and found similar results. Irwing and Lynn (2005) found that men outnumber women 2-to-1 at the 125 IQ level, and 5.5-to-1 at 155. Machin and Pekkarinen (2008) found higher variance in math and reading scores of male children in the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD). Deary, Irwing, Der, and Bates (2007) studied sibling pairs and their scores on the Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery (ASVAB) and found higher male variance. Ardin and Plomin (2006) tracked roughly 10,000 twins from age 2 to 10 and measured a higher variation in intelligence in male twins from 3 years

There is, as with anything, an evolutionary argument as to why relatively higher variability of male intelligence (or male ability in general) would be advantageous. A woman who finds herself three standard deviations above her peers in intelligence can't take much advantage of that from a procreative standpoint — no matter how many resources she is able to collect, her reproductive success is still limited by the human gestation period and a high risk of death in childbirth. But a man who finds himself well-ahead of his peers can go to town — Genghis Khan took such advantage of his alpha male dominance that there is a 0.5 percent chance you are related to him. It's good to be the queen ... but it's even better to be the king, and this favors a relatively riskier

In many ways, the IQ variability hypothesis does a better job of explaining the world than does the 'subtle bias' position.

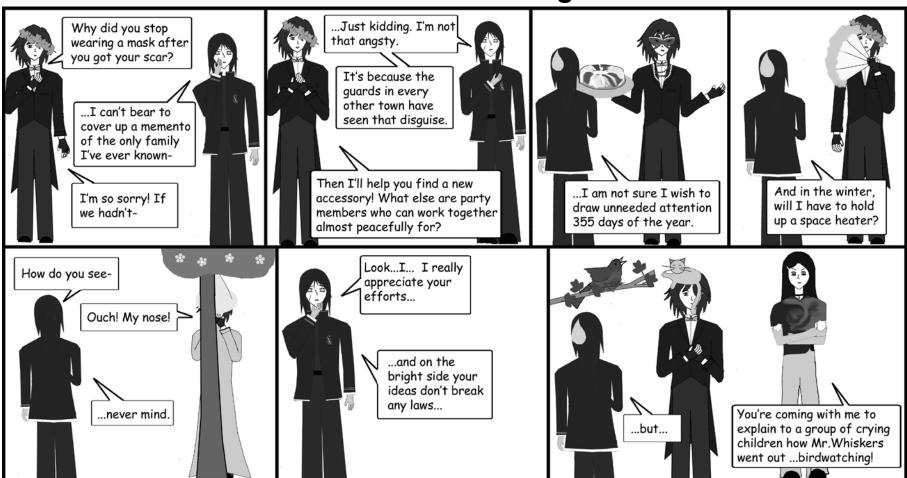
evolutionary strategy when it comes to male offspring.

What is the consequence of equal average intelligence between the sexes, a strong linkage between intelligence and outcomes, and a higher variability in intelligence for men? For an institution like MIT, which presumably selects its professors from the top 1 percent of the population, the relative flatness of the male ability distribution means two things: firstly, men are going to outnumber women, with the degree of skew increasing as standards are raised. And secondly, within any elite group, the average male intelligence is likely to be higher than the average female intelligence.

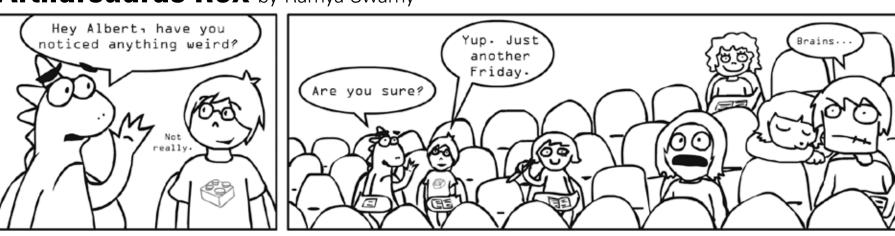
In many ways, the IQ variability hypothesis does a better job of explaining the world than does the "subtle bias" position. Claiming that prejudice is responsible for our observed world is a delicate balancing act — one needs to show that U.S. politics, corporate boardrooms, and high technology centers are all vulnerable o invisible bigotry, but conversely that in those axes in which women outperform men, whether it is their lower rates of high school drop out, incarceration, or mental retardation, the bias is gone and the observed outcomes are somehow due to some unrelated factors. Conversely, higher male IQ variability explains nearly the whole range of outcomes; men significantly outnumber women in the tails of life's outcomes because, quite simply, there are more men in the tails of the ability distribution.

Before we embark on a second crusade for gender equality at MIT, we should have a thorough debate about the causes of our gender gap, and this time, we shouldn't just shout down those like Larry Summers who dare to conjecture about alternate theories. Perhaps the Committee on Women Faculty is right, and MIT is not a meritocracy. But what if they are wrong? The consequence for adopting increasing favoritism towards women will not just be the deterioration of our meritocracy, but the institutionalization of a real bias and an increasing sense that the women at MIT have not earned their place.

Somewhere on the Search for Meaning... by Letitia Li



Arthursaurus Rex by Ramya Swamy



Dilbert by Scott Adams



Sudoku

Solution, page 18

7	5			1				
2			4	8			9	1
			3		2		8	
6	7					9	5	
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Instructions: Fill in the grid so that each column, row, and 3 by 3 grid contains exactly one of each of the digits 1 through 9.



Solution, page 18

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Help Desk by Michael Benitez



Subterfuge And Social Media



by Jerry Holkins and Mike Krahulik

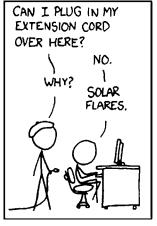


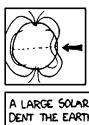




Induced Current



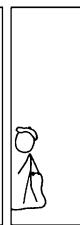






A LARGE SOLAR FLARE COULD DENT THE EARTH'S MAGNETIC FIELD INWARD. THE EARTH'S SPIN COULD THEN INDUCE A STRONG CURRENT IN ANY LONG CONDUCTORS, MELTING THEM AND STARTING FIRES. BY EXTENDING YOUR POWER CORD, YOU COULD KILL US ALL.





THAT WAS MEAN. LISTEN, SOMEBOOY HAS TO KEEP THE MYTHBUSTERS IN BUSINESS. **NEXT SEASON** SHOULD BE FUN.

The MythBusters need to tackle whether a black hole from the LHC could TEALLY destroy the world.

Crossword Puzzle

Solution, page 18

ACROSS

- 1 Giant Mel et al.
- 5 Skating jumps
- 10 Ballpark figs. 14 Beat to a froth
- 15 Euripides tragedy
- 16 Predicament 17 Pre-euro denaro
- 18 *Singly
- 20 *Gathering of reporters
- 22 Authorized, briefly
- 23 "... the morn ... Walks o'er the dew of __ high eastward hill": "Hamlet"
- 24 Olympian's quest
- 25 Sources of overhead costs?
- 27 Highchair feature
- 30 GPS suggestion
- 31 *Workplace gambling
- "The Swiss Family Robinson" author Johann
- 35 Game for one
- 37 Barbecue site
- 40 *Furthermore 44 "I love," in Latin

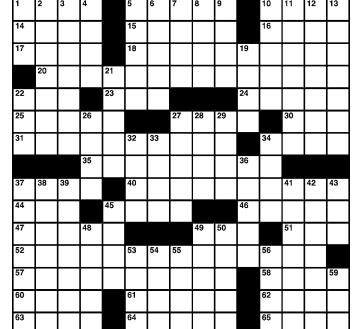
- 45 Topple (over)
- 46 Stereotypical parrot name 47 __ jumbo
- 49 Cote occupant
- 51 Mormon initials
- 52 *Negotiating for a lesser sentence
- *Credit company with a "Priceless" ad campaign
- 58 Boardroom VIPs
- 60 Director Preminger
- 61 Postpone, as a motion (and word that can follow the last word of answers to starred clues)
- 62 Morales of "NYPD Blue"
- 63 Lowly laborer 64 German industrial city
- 65 JFK arrivals, once

DOWN

- 1 Big-eyed bird
- 2 Envision
- 3 Fed up with
- 4 Gush 5 Gas giant that merged with

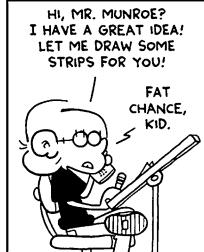
ΒP

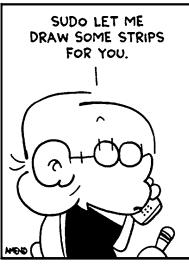
- 6 One of the noble gases
- 7 First garden site?
- 8 Tree growth 9 Fill to the gills
- 10 Lauder of cosmetics
- 11 Washer setting
- 12 Alley prowlers 13 TV's Remington et al.
- 19 Military force
- 21 Big name in food service
- 22 Guadalajara gold
- 26 Catcher Carlton ___, who famously homered to win Game 6 of the 1975 World
- 27 Bottom line amount
- 28 Turnpike, e.g.
- 29 "Put __ on it!"
- 32 Author Wiesel 33 Woodsy aerosol scent
- 34 "What are __ believe?"
- 36 Turn red, perhaps
- 37 Janitor's tool
- 38 Try to equal 39 Regains consciousness
- 41 Reason to miss work

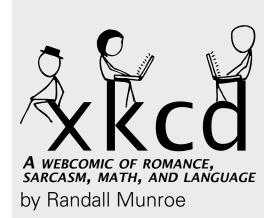


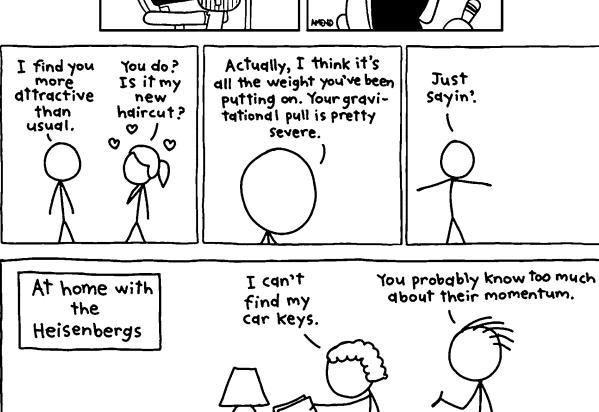
- 42 Nasty geezer
- 43 Where Hillary was sen.
- 45 Lakers star Bryant 48 It's passed in relays
- 49 Grammy-winning country star Steve
- 50 Add lanes to
- 53 Johnson of "Laugh-In"
- 54 Victrolas, e.g.
- 55 Ties up the phone, say 56 Chills, as bubbly
- 59 Bro's sib

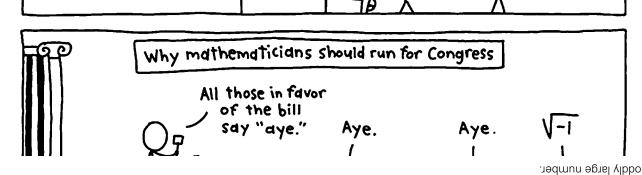
Guest Week: Bill Amend (FoxTrot)



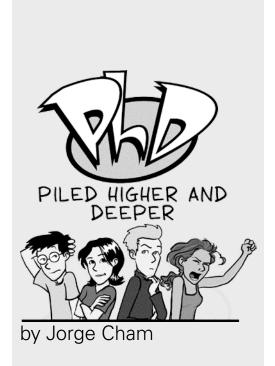


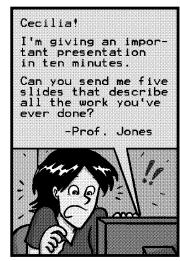


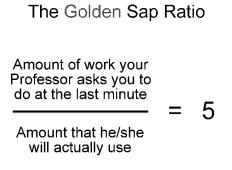


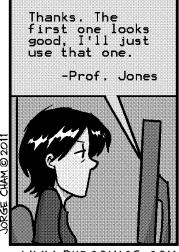


Guest comic by Bill Amend of FoxTrot, an inspiration to all us nerdy- physics-majors-turned-cartoonists, of which there are an









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The Law of Free Food:

Food Taste = Food Quality × Hunger

\$\$ Cost



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15.366 Energy Ventures

Explore how your innovative technology and entrepreneurial concepts will apply to significant opportunities in the energy sector!

Lecture: R EVE (4-7 PM) 32-124



MIT Entrepreneurship

10.807J / 15.371J - INNOVATION TEAMS

LEARN HOW TO DEVELOP COMMERCIALIZATION
STRATEGIES FOR INNOVATIVE TECHNOLOGIES SO YOU
NEVER NEED A "PLAN B"



FALL 2011 - LECTURE: MW EVE (5:30-8 PM) (32-144)

MIT Entrepreneurship

anime BOSTON

By Jessica J. Pourian

STAFF COLUMNIST

Last weekend, I returned to the Boston Convention and Exhibition Center (BCEC) for my second convention of the year, after the Penny Arcade Expo (PAX) in March. As I stepped from the cab so graciously paid for by The Tech, I was surprised to see no one outside the building in costume or actually, anybody at all. I approached the doors and peered inside to see ... no one.

Turns out the convention was in Hynes Convention Center. Fast forward 45 minutes of taking the Silver, Red, and Green Lines, and I suddenly found myself in a crowd of brightly dressed people with colored hair, strange hats, and elaborate cos-

tumes — Anime Boston!

For three days this past weekend, the Hynes Convention Center was home to the biggest anime gathering in New England. Nearly 20,000 fans attended the convention, which has been running annually since 2003. Anime and manga merchandise dealers from around the country, as well as a number of New England artists, showcased their wares to the thousands of fans.

I was only able to attend the show Friday afternoon and Saturday morning and spent the majority of my time wandering around the show floor and admiring the cosplayers and various stores. Sadly, I missed both the Melody Ball and Masquerade, two special ticketed events, due to poor planning and too each Anime Boston, and the

Masquerade is a show where cosplayers act out skits for the audience.

There was an incredible number of people in costume - it was my first real convention with this magnitude of cosplaying. PAX and WonderCon — a mini Comic-Con held in San Francisco each year — don't have anywhere near the number of costumes as Anime Boston. I'd say one in three people were dressed up as anything from Sakura of Cardcaptor Sakura and characters from Bleach, Naruto (I counted over 20 Akatsuki costumes on Saturday), Pokémon (I saw at least a dozen Mistys on Friday), and Inuyasha all the way to Harry Potter and Link. It didn't matter that a particular character was not actually from an anime — the spirit of the convention seemed to embrace everything.

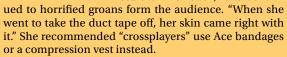
I attended Anime Boston with a friend and his mother, who was on her first visit to a convention. "It seems like a very safe place," she said of the convention, "where people can go, and it's OK to be weird and dress strange.

Indeed, the number of cosplayers and the variety of costumes seem to show that people did not mind looking different. Here, different was the norm. Costume quality ranged from the "I-just-bought-this-downstairsat-the-dealer-tables" to "I-have-spent-more-time-making-this-costume-than-breathing-in-the-past-several-

I've always been a fan of costumes that look "authentic," like real clothing — even if it means sacrificing details of the costume — over those fashioned from craft-store felt that include every facet of the fictional character. The convention boasted a number of such costumes, such as the large number of people dressed

as Minecraft creepers; they were sufficiently blocky.

Besides the spectacle of staring at all the cosplayers, there was plenty to do. Videos of the best and latest animes were shown. Workshops were held for everything from plushie- to costume-making. Panels ranging from the best anime theme songs to hentai cluttered the schedules of each day to keep convention-goers busy. By the time I was done with the floor on Friday, I only made it to one panel, "Cross-dressing for Girls," which gave girls tips about looking like an effeminate anime boy. The two women leading the panel — both dressed rather convincingly as men - warned against ever trying to use duct tape to bind chests. "I have a friend who decided to use duct tape before a many p-sets. The Melody Ball jessica J. Pourian—the tech con a few years ago," one of the is a formal ballroom dance held **Paula O. Jacobs '13, dressed as Umbreon.** presenters related. "She still has scars on her back," she contin-



The speakers also cautioned against "glomping," a common practice at anime conventions where one person tackle-hugs another in costume. One presenter related being "glomped" by someone running into an elevator with her who accidentally thrust her against the back handle bar of the elevator, both breaking her costume and cutting her back. Another friend, she said, who had a bird-Howl costume from Howl's Moving Castle — complete with over 1000 feathers and several hundred hours of work put in it — had his costume broken within 30 minutes of being at a convention because someone glomped him without warning.

"Don't glomp without asking," she said firmly. Besides the number of cosplayers and cosplay-relat-

> dealer tables to explore. The first floor of Hynes was full of merchandise dealers of everything from Totoro plushies to hentai bedsheets (I know, erything was anime relat-

don'ts, from your friendly campus newspaper DO

- Preregister for tickets so you pay
- Wear comfortable shoes.

Convention dos and

- Bring cash some vendors don't accept cards!
- Budget expenditures before going to the convention.
- Ask before taking a picture with someone.
- Be aware of photos being taken around you - avoid unintentional photobombs!
- Finish your p-sets beforehand! Stay guilt free.

DON'T

- Glomp people randomly.
- Leave items unattended (cameras, expensive props, shopping bags).
- Expect to get into a panel five minutes before it starts — go early!
- Stop in the middle of foot traffic for a photo op.
- Harass cosplayers.

video games, including Portal 2.

Setting a budget is an excellent idea for Anime Boston if you don't want to walk away from the show floor with an empty bank account and more knick-knacks than will ever fit in your dorm room. The dealer tables have an incredible array of cool things that make it easy to spend more money than you intend if you don't plan ahead. Think beforehand about what you could potentially want to buy at the convention (do you really need that sixth Pikachu plushie?) and how much it will all cost. If you set a generous (but doable) budget and manage to come in under it, you'll feel good about yourself.

I ended up leaving the dealer tables with a few original Legend of Zelda posters done by a local artist before going upstairs to the Artists' Alley, where most original artwork was displayed.

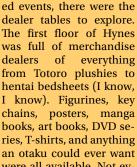
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The Artists Alley is a place for New England artists to display and sell their work. Just like the dealer tables, most things were anime related, but there were plenty of video game and Japan-related items that weren't necessarily from anime. One vendor sold giant plush sushi pieces, while another sold earrings that looked like traditional Japanese fuurin wind chimes. Many artists advertised 10-minute portraits of you and a friend in full color. Some artists sold only original, premade artwork, while others had vast collections of art based on anime characters. The skill of the artists and the diversity of the artwork displayed was really stunning — I saw not only some wonderful, traditional cel-shaded anime art pieces, but also a variety of lovely anime-inspired watercolors. Most 8"x11" pieces sold for \$8-15, while larger pieces ranged from \$20-40. I bought a few prints up there, too, and plan to get all the artwork I bought laminated at CopyTech so it stays in the best condition possible.

Anime Boston will return next year in the spring. Students looking for a convention to attend can try to weasel their way into Boston Comic-Con, which starts today at Hynes Convention Center (not the BCEC! If you go there, you'll end up at the Oncology Nursing Society's 36th Annual Congress, along with a produce and floral convention!).



I know). Figurines, key chains, posters, manga books, art books, DVD series, T-shirts, and anything an otaku could ever want were all available. Not eved either; there was plenty of Nintendo-related merchandise, along with other



JESSICA J. POURIAN—THE TECH

A convention attendee dressed as Toph Bei Fong from Avatar: The Last Airbender poses at the Hynes Convention Center.

Melody Ball proof that even nerds care to dance

Every year, Anime Boston hosts a costume ballroom formal. This year's event was called the Melody Ball, and it was the highlight of my Anime Boston, as always. The Melody Ball enforces a formal dress code and plays almost exclusively ballroom music, which makes it the ideal event for tuxedo enthusiasts, amateur ballroom dancers, and Disney fairy tale cosplayers — all of whom, as it happens, were in attendance.

I do enjoy ballroom dancing, but opportunities for someone like me to dance public without being hope infrequent, to say the least. At the risk of sounding more than a little vain, the Melody Ball is one of the few chances I ever have to make a good impression on the dance floor with something other than my Michael Jackson impersonation, and with significantly more dignity.

To their credit, the organizers of the annual Ball do make an effort to make sure attendees have at least a basic understanding of ballroom dance before they attend so that everyone has fun, but those with even a little extra experience, confidence, or personal hygiene frequently stand out from the crowd. The right costume can also make quite the splash — one young woman arrived in Belle's gold ball gown from Beauty and the Beast; understandably, when the title song was played for a waltz, she received nothing less than full-on applause.

Other interesting costumes included formal versions of The Joker and Harley Quinn, various Asian-inspired formal wear, and any of a number of anime characters I had never heard of but looked interesting nonetheless. The musical selection varied between popular music, like "Beauty and the Beast" and "Tango: Maureen" from Rent, and live music by a string quartet courtesy of the Video Game Orchestra like the "Blue Danube" and Sleeping Beauty waltzes — as I said before, Disney cosplayers, right at home.

The formal ball has been my primary reason for attending Anime Boston for the last three years, and this year's Melody Ball was by far my favorite memory of the convention. My dance partner and I drew our fair share of attention dressed as The Spirit (me) and Generic Asian Girl (her), and we made some new and charming acquaintances. I'm a bit sad that I probably won't be going to Anime Boston again in the near future, but my dance partner's first Melody Ball seems to have been a success — she's already making plans for next year.

—Michael T. Lin











ON KRESGE LAWN

Students and other members of the MIT community gathered on Kresge Lawn on Sunday afternoon to celebrate Holi by covering each other with colorful paint, which is traditionally made from medicinal powders. Holi, the Festival of Colors, is an Indian celebration marking the end of the winter season. The event was sponsored by the MIT Hindu Students Council.

Photos by Biyeun Buczyk '10











THEATER REVIEW

A-M-A-Z-I-N-G

Musical Theater Guild's Spelling Bee not to be missed

By Michael T. Lin CONTRIBUTING EDITOR

The MIT Musical Theater Guild is performing The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee as their spring show, and this production is nothing short of phenomenal. Wisecracks about the unwieldy name aside, the Guild has put their best foot forward with Spelling Bee, and the result is a

In Spelling Bee, six very distinctive elementary schoolers compete in the titular spelling competition, in the process finding their own sense of self-worth and independence - at least, however much of either a twelve-year-old is likely to have. Each character has his or her own quirk, ranging from the endearing to the unfortunate to the frighteningly familiar. I leave it up to you to decide which is which, but suffice it to say, it's not difficult to find at least one character with whom to sympathize. A strong sense of wit and light satire pervades the script, which pokes fun at a variety of viewpoints and issues without ever seeming cynical or hostile and avoids the pitfall of letting referential humor dominate the show as a whole.

Spelling Bee is an anomaly compared to

many of the other musicals performed on campus, by MTG or otherwise. The show takes place in a petite single act with no intermission, making the show easier to squeeze in during these potentially hectic days near the end the semester. It relies heavily on audience participation, with special emphasis on the "participation." This is not just a show in which the performers walk through and sing to the front

Each character has his or her own quirk, ranging from the endearing to the unfortunate.

three rows. In fact, a good deal of Spelling Bee's charm stems from the presence of guest spellers, audience members who have signed up beforehand and, for the first portion of the show, sit onstage among the performers and "compete" in the Bee. I'd be lying if I said the results weren't a little rigged, but you'd be surprised at how far an audience member can get with a thorough understanding of Scandinavian etymology.

Any guest spellers onstage when a dance number starts will be fully involved in the choreography, which is necessarily simple in order to accommodate the audience members. Guest spellers get a hug from Comfort Counselor Mitch Mahoney, played by Carlos Cardenas '09, and a juice box. While I ended up not drinking my juice box, I did learn a new term for dog excrement, the spelling of which I will never forget. It really is true what they say — it's easy to forget even the simplest things when there's a light in your face and a microphone in front of you.

All other points aside, the real appeal of this production is its cast. All of the actors take on their odd and often bizarre roles with ease, even in spite of frequent doubling of minor roles. There isn't a weak singer to be found in the ensemble, and the catchy musical numbers benefit from the cast's vocal talents. Cardenas, a veteran (and recurring highlight) of numerous MTG productions, is in especially fine form as Mitch, although almost every character gets his or her memorable moment to shine. Perhaps the more impressive aspect of the cast's performance is their ability to stay in character despite having to baby-

The 25th Annual **Putnam County** Spelling Bee

Directed by Dawn M. Erickson '07

MIT Musical Theater Guild April 22, 23, 29, and 30, 2011 Kresge Little Theatre

sit the audience members in their midst. Those who remain after the show will see how cogent, cheerful, and capable of unimpeded respiration the actors actually are in contrast to their roles — a testament to their talent.

The Musical Theatre Guild, frankly, deserves a trophy for their production of The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee, and fittingly, they already have one. Although there have been MTG shows in the past that I couldn't recommend vigorously enough, this is possibly the first show that I can say with conviction seems to me to be flawlessly executed.

CONCERT REVIEW

West Campus goes hardcore

New England Metal and Hardcore Festival is worth seeing, even without a lot of previous exposure to the genre

By Nasir Adaya

New England Metal and Hardcore Festival: A three-day event designed for only the most HxC ("hardcore") individuals. The NEMHF has occurred annually in Worcester, Mass., at the Palladium ever since the festival's inception in 1999.

Unfortunately, I was only able to attend the last day of the festival, Saturday. Fortunately, the last day happened to have the best closers: Between the Buried and Me (BTBAM), and Hatebreed. These are arguably the best bands that the Palladium had to offer; however, I personally enjoyed BTBAM and Born of Osiris the most. Born of Osiris, which played before BTBAM, is a progressive metal/deathcore band from Chicago, Ill.

My friends and I stood out from the rest of the crowd. Here we were, West Campus MIT students dressed in jeans and T-shirts, as plain as seeing liquid nitrogen tanks on campus. There they were, clad in piercings, tattoos, band T-shirts, long hair, and crazy beards. I would wager that the only Asian male that was at the Palladium for the concert was a certain Next House friend that was with me. The bottom line: It almost didn't seem as if we belonged there.

I'll be honest here — in the past year I haven't listened to much metal, and overall I'm more of a metalcore, progressive metaltype person (think Protest the Hero) rather

Problem sets became less important and all that was relevant were the machismo lyrics screaming at me.

than a heavy, death metal-type person. However, the raw energy of screaming, indecipherable vocals was overwhelming — it was definitely calming to be in the presence of waves of amplified beats. Problem sets became less important and all that was relevant to life was the machismo lyrics screaming at me.

People are generally excited to see Between the Buried and Me. I wouldn't be wrong to assert that they were the staple of the entire three-day festival. During the 15-minute set-up for the band's performance, people were shouting "BTBAM" (Bee tee ... BAMMM!!!) non-stop. I found it cute how much the average person was into BTBAM — at one point, I heard someone mention that "It makes me smile when I see so many Between the Buried and Me Tshirts," in reference to perhaps 20 percent of the entire concert population wearing some form of BTBAM apparel. But I must agree, Bee tee BAM was quite spectacular. They mixed their concert playlist up, rocking out some of their older material as well as songs from their newest album, The Great Misdirect (2009).

Hatebreed tends to be characterized by more grating vocals. I am not a fan of Hatebreed as much as Between the Buried and Me. Nevertheless, it was a calming experi-

New England Metal and Hardcore Festival

April 16, 2011

The Palladium, Worcester, MA

ence to listen to all this heavy metal, even Hatebreed. The Palladium created a temporary escape for me, such that my mind became fixated only on the music and not on trivial details of life.

For someone who is a metal amateur, this was definitely a festival worth going to. I think it's in everyone's best interest to be scared of getting flattened by multiple 300-pound, ferocious-looking biker-esque males at least once in their lives. Even if you are not familiar with most of the bands that were playing (like I was), it is still worth checking out the festival next year just to increase your HxC credibility.

ARTS ON CAMPUS

Not your typical East Asian festival

Inspirasian spices it up with South Asian, tribal, and modern pop acts

By Derek Chang

STAFF WRITER

Last Saturday, the MIT Asian Dance Team (ADT) hosted Inspirasian, the inaugural Boston Asian Performing Arts Festival. The festival, held at Kresge Auditorium, featured performing groups from throughout the Greater Boston Area and included performances that represented both East and South Asia.

Inspirasian consisted mainly of dance acts, which interpreted both modern pop songs and traditional folk music. The MIT Asian Dance Team opened and closed the festival, with the "Element" dance opening Act I and "Unity" closing Act II. ADT also performed several other times during the festival to both Chinese pop songs and

traditional folk styles. The Harvard Asian American Dance Troupe performed twice to Korean pop.

Many of the dances focused on Chinese minority tribes, such as the Zhuang, Hui, and Dai groups. In addition, there were dances with influences from Tibet, Mongolia, and Xianjiang. The Wang YMCA Chinese Dance Group performed Han-style long fan and fan fusion dances, and the Jia-Yun Dance Troupe presented a Chinese lantern dance.

Two MIT acapella groups performed at the festival. The MIT Ohms sang "Aashayein/Hope," a Bollywood act combined with "Hope" by Twista and "Just a Dream" by Nelly. MIT Syncopasian sang "Shoes in Asian Homes" by ice1cube and "One" by Epik High. The MIT Chinese Choral Society sang two lyrical Chinese vocal works.

Three other groups provided styles that contrasted the East Asian-influenced dances that were prominent throughout the festival. The MIT Bhangra team performed the bhangra style that originated in the Indian state Punjab, while the Silk Bamboo Youth Ensemble gave two performances with traditional Chinese instruments. The MIT Chinese Yo-Yo Club also gave an exciting and audience-friendly performance in Act II.

Overall, Inspirasian was a successful event. The Asian Dance Team specializes in dances with East Asian influences, but the incorporation of MIT Bhangra and the MIT Ohms added diversity to what I expected to be a solely East Asian festival. The biggest strength was the eclectic nature of the festival, which stemmed from the variety of styles presented, including modern Asian pop,

Inspirasian April 23, 2011 Kresge Auditorium

classical Chinese, and tribal styles. Inspirasian is a terrific event for people

wanting to experience a dance-centered festival that focuses primarily on modern and traditional East Asian styles. The performances were arranged in a logical and effective order, which allowed individual acts to flow naturally from one performance to the next. The success of such a fusion event comes from incorporating diverse styles and delivering strong performances, both of which were achieved.



CONCERT REVIEW

Fresh sound, stale performance

Wildly artistic TV on the Radio gives a more easygoing concert

By Natthida Wiwatwicha

STAFF WRITER

This is TV on the Radio, one of a kind: wind chimes attached to the guitar. Whistling and clapping. And a rotating siren light.

This is the band that released their first album, *OK Calculator* (alluding to Radiohead's *OK Computer* — check out the song "Robots"), by leaving copies of their homemade records in public places. All of the five main collaborators are multi-instrumentalists. The instruments range from the expected guitar, bass, and keyboards, to flute, synthesizer, organs, saxophone, and horns. Sometimes they do a cappella, sometimes improvisation. The band is often joined by dozens of other musicians from different genres. TV on the Radio is not merely a musical group: They are the offspring of a creative culture.

Lissy Trullie, an indie pop musician currently living in New York City, opened the show. Her voice and music were lovely, but ultimately she was little more than eye candy — nothing particularly spectacular. By the time the actual concert started, the audience was getting impatient. Fortunately the House of Blues' venue was quite artistically pleasing, allowing insubstantial contemplation and discussions to fulfill the over-anhour wait between the opening band and the show.

TVOTR's compact set list lasted a bit over an hour. They had a minibreak. No encore. The little nuisances here and there were tolerable, but difficult to brush aside.

The set list was mostly comprised of

songs from their latest album, *Nine Types of Lights* (2011), released seven days before the concert. While the newness of the music did not prevent the audience from enjoying the music, it did not respond to our need to hear familiar tracks from *Dear Science* (2008) or their EPs. Among the memorable songs were "Young Liars," "Wolf Like Me," "Red Dress," "Crying," "Staring at the Sun," and "Satellite."

Lead singer Tunde Adebimpe's sickness did not hinder his performance at all, but it did mellow down the tone of the evening. They were getting old — at least that was what fellow band member Kyp Malone said. I looked around; we were all getting old. To my surprise, most of the audience were my parents' age or older. I moved closer to the stage and discovered that the crowd was a gradient of age, inversely proportional to enthusiasm. The concert became more satisfying: I was no longer the only one in my proximity who danced and screamed. Occasionally the college students in front of me formed a rather pathetic mosh pit. It was not really their fault; TV on the Radio mosh should not kill or injure, should it come into existence at all. There was no sign of extreme intensity anywhere. I shifted my focus from my surroundings to the band and sunk myself into the connection between the music and me for the rest of the night.

In terms of live performance, TV on the Radio is quite underwhelming. But the show was pretty decent, and their music is still fantastic. Though the fun I had that evening could easily be achieved with lights off and good speakers, it was worth it getting to feel them, to know them better — just like

spending some extra time with an affable friend. After all, TV on the Radio should never be defined solely through either studio music or live performance. They produce great sound, sight, personality, innovation, universality, and art. Definitely check them out if you have not already.

TV on the Radio
House of Blues
April 16, 2011



COURTESY OF MICHAEL LAVINE

TV on the Radio performed at Boston's House of Blues over the Patriots' Day weekend.

CONCERT REVIEW

Mellow, folksy, hypnotic

Iron and Wine's subtleness and calmness was the perfect way to unwind before a busy week

By Nasir Adaya

The Low Anthem. Iron and Wine. This was quite the contrast to the other concerts I attended over this long weekend. Think Random Hall versus Baker that's how radically different Iron and Wine is from both the metal/ hardcore festival I attended on Saturday and the electro-reggae Major Lazer concert I attended on Sunday at Wellesley. Tuesday night was a prelude to getting focused again, musically pre-gaming for the days ahead, prepping for the return from the four-day weekend. The concert whispered to me, telling me that this was the final moment of relaxation before I had to head back to the slave camp that had already consumed some of my friends for the whole long weekend.

I left for the concert a bit later than I had anticipated, so I only caught about half the performance of The Low Anthem, who was the opener for Iron and Wine. This folk quartet hails from Providence, R.I. They are characterized by an array of multi-instrumentalists playing sweet and mellow tunes. They did a great job opening for Iron and Wine by creating a plush setting.

Being folk/folk rock, Iron and Wine — the stage name of Sam Beam — is perfect for people who want to relax to calm melodies. That's exactly what the audience did for the one-and-a-half hours that he performed. I always identify Beam by his signature beard and long hair, but I was surprised by how relatively neat and trim he was on Tuesday. His beard was conservative (compared to how puffy it had previously been), his hair was short, and he had an

Iron and Wine
House of Blues
April 19, 2011

overall fresh appearance. I was quite taken aback and did not recognize him instantly. Thankfully, his musical talent is independent of his appearance, and as the concert progressed, I grew to, perhaps, prefer the new Sam Beam to the

Iron and Wine opened with "Boy with a Coin," one of his lesserknown, older songs. It was a highly melancholy song but established the mood for the rest of the night. Other songs that are appropriately titled, such as "God Made the Automobile," "Freedom Hangs Like Heaven," and "Big Burned Hand," helped to subtly add more colors of contemplation. It helped that I had listened to Iron and Wine's newest album a few times before the concert, so I was familiar with many of the songs that he played. In the past I had listened to Iron and Wine's older works, but many of the songs he performed were indeed new to me.

Beam directly interacted with the audience — answering questions and making light chatter between songs. As the concert progressed, I stood there, eyes closed, in a half-trance, not sure if I was asleep or awake. Iron and Wine's folksy voice, the two female background vocalists, and the light instrumentation diffused serenity into the air. It was so relaxing, but in a completely different way than the New England Metal and Hardcore Festival. Iron and Wine is the way to start your week.





UK side of CME facing financial difficulty, cutbacks

CME, from Page 1

dents to MIT in the 2011-2012 academic year. However, because the funding is restricted to the Engineering Department, only electrical, civil, mechanical, and aeroastro engineering students will be able to participate.

"There's no funding, presently, for the other disciplines. But one physics student was able to obtain funding on his own and is hoping to come, which is very much an exception," Hedderick said.

Despite these restrictions on

the Cambridge side, Hedderick said that an agreement has been reached to allow MIT to send students outside of the four engineering disciplines mentioned above.

Elizabeth C. Wiltshire CME is a third-year Cambridge student who may be the last materials science exchange student from Cambridge, since her major is not part of the engineering department.

Wiltshire said CME is a prestigious program at Cambridge with very competitive admissions. "I know a lot of people who didn't get in. I heard that about a few hundred chemical engineers applied." She also said that unlike MIT, which has both CME and MISTI, there are barely any other open foreign exchange programs at Cambridge.

Even though she still only pays the Cambridge tuition that is significantly lower than MIT's — Cambridge tuition is \$5,600 per academic year, and MIT tuition is \$40,460 per academic year — Wiltshire has to pay for her accommodations and all other costs here at MIT, which are higher than those in the U.K. After subtracting her CME stipend, she still had to spend a few

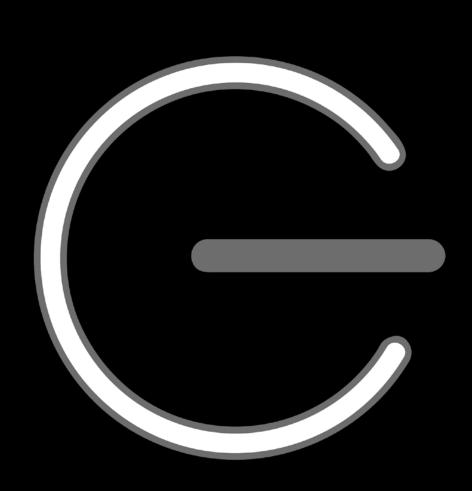
thousand pounds more at MIT. She noted, however, that it is natural to want to spend and do more in a new environment.

if Cambridge can. Nevertheless, MIT cannot send more students over than it receives because CME is a balanced exchange program.

Wiltshire expressed regret about the program's financial difficulties. "It's been an absolutely amazing experience. It's a shame that they couldn't find more funding, " she said.

It seems the funding issue is only present on the U.K. side. According to Hedderick, MIT has a very firm commitment to the CME program, and has no problem sending more students over if Cambridge can. Nevertheless, MIT cannot send more students over than it receives because CME is a balanced exchange program. However, only the total number of students in the exchange needs to be balanced — while Cambridge is only allowed to send engineering students to MIT at the moment, MIT is still allowed to send students in other disciplines.

"Of course, we'll work to build the number [of CME students] up. We'll keep talking to our Cambridge colleagues to see where they can find funding," Hedderick said.



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Up to 30K expected

Open House coincides with CSF

Open house, from Page 1

sense to open the campus up to the community," he said.

He hopes to eventually see open houses become regular campus events, perhaps having both internal MIT community open houses and external events open to the general public. Still, he emphasized that this weekend's success will be evaluated before making any definite plans. "We'll see what happens this weekend, and based on that, those of us who are involved [with the open house] will make a decision," he said.

DiFava said that planning for security and logistic concerns associated with the large number of people was similar to other large campus events: the main difference is that Under the Dome will have attendees with no affiliation to MIT other than "curiosity." Planning for security has been in the works for several months. Services like several information tents and wide distribution of campus maps will be available to visitors unfamiliar with the Institute.

DiFava wrote a community letter on April 27, accessible at http://

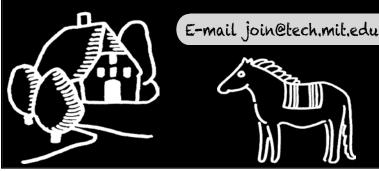
 $web.mit.edu/cp/www/_docs/Di-$ Fava_Open_House.pdf, asking the community to help "ensure that our campus is safe" by securing areas not included in the open house, welcoming visitors to campus, and directing visitors to the information tents at Mass Ave., North Court, and Kendall Square.

He advised members of the campus community to "be responsible," but emphasized that he had "no negative sense at all" for the open house and was enthusiastic about the chance for the public to explore

"People are going to be fascinated they want to see the cutting-edge research here. MIT is the 'mystery on the river'; people drive by and walk by, and this is their opportunity to come over to campus," DiFava said. "I anticipate a very, very successful event. I think that the Institute is going to shine."

Lagacé shared those sentiments. "I'm looking forward to seeing a lot of smiling faces on Saturday and seeing all of the Institute's individual pieces showing off what makes MIT a good

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Kendall zoning plan released MIT will focus change on eastern side of campus

By John A. Hawkinson STAFF REPORTER

Yesterday MIT filed a petition with the City of Cambridge requesting zoning changes for the campus east of Ames Street. MIT proposes to create a new zoning district to support future academic and retail development in the next ten years.

The district is essentially the east side of campus and abutting parts of Kendall Square: roughly the area bounded by Ames Street, Main Street, the east edge of the Sloan School, and Memorial Drive, in the addition to 1 Broadway an office building which is across Main Street from E60, the new Sloan building.

The proposal is available at http://tech.mit.edu/V131/N23/ kendall/.

MIT's proposal comes after several preliminary steps by MIT for changes to the Kendall Square area, beginning in the fall with a series of meetings held with the MIT community and the Kendall community conducted by Steven C. Marsh of the MIT Investment Management Company. Marsh oversees MIT's real estate portfolio.

It also comes at a time when there are many changes happening in the areas between Central Square and Kendall Square. The City has hired Goody Clancy and Associates to conduct a study of urban

development in the areas between and including the two squares and to provide a framework for consideration of a number of zoning proposals affecting that area, including

Other proposals before the City include a proposal by Novartis to change the zoning for their new building at the site of the old Analog Devices building on Mass Ave; a zoning proposal by Forest City Associates to raze the block north of Random Hall and construct a new life sciences building, which requests zoning changes; and a special permit request to build a new building for the Broad Institute at 75 Ames Street.

Added to this mix is MIT's proposal. Though framed as the 'Kendall Square Initiative," with an accompanying website (http:// kendallsquareinitiative.org), zoning petition is really only about MIT's property, and ignores the north side of Main Street occupied by the Mariott hotel, the Cambridge Center buildings that include the MIT Coop, etc.

MIT's proposal requests a height limit of 250 feet within the zone, with up to two buildings of 300 feet. Some areas within the zone will have smaller height limits, such as 150 feet near Memorial Drive.

By comparison, the area is currently in four different zoning districts. The frontage along Main Street is currently zoned for 120 feet, MIT would increase it to 250 feet. Along Ames Street and Amherst streets, 120 feet will increase to 200 feet. Along Memorial Drive, from 120 feet to 150 feet. At one Broadway, from 230 feet to 250 feet. And the remainder of the area, including Carleton, Hayward, and Wadsworth Streets as well as the Sloan buildings, from 120 feet to 250 feet

In a press release, MIT suggested the zoning change would permit four new development projects over the next ten years:

- 880,000 square feet of commercial space, with two new "signature buildings."
- 800,000 square feet of new academic space.
- 120,000 square feet of residential space • 100,000 square feet of retail space.

Additionally, MIT said they will permit a public plaza and improvements to the Kendall MBTA subway

MIT's plan is being developed by David Manfredi of Elkus/Manfredi Architects. Elkus/Manfredi is also working on the new Broad building at 75 Ames Street.

MIT's proposal will be reviewed by the Cambridge Planning Board as well as the Cambridge City Council.

Revere woman free

Breast-feeding illegal immigrant released after seven day detention

By Brian R. Ballou THE BOSTON GLOBE

REVERE — A Brazilian mother in the country illegally says she was detained for seven days by federal immigration officials after a traffic stop in Reading last week, despite her pleas that she be allowed to breast-feed her 13-month-old son.

"I told them, many times, that I needed to be with my son to breastfeed, but they didn't listen to me," Katia Cynara Borges said Thursday after she was freed from the Suffolk County House of Corrections. She was released following numerous inquiries this week by Globe reporters to Immigration and Customs Enforcement officials.

In a brief statement Thursday, the agency said: "After further review, ICE determined that the detention of this individual was not consistent with agency policy on the detention of breast-feeding mothers. As a result, ICE released the individual today while she awaits the outcome of her case."

Borges's detention runs counter to guidelines that the agency revamped after a raid it carried out in 2007 at a New Bedford factory drew widespread criticism. Hundreds of illegal immigrants who worked there, many of whom were either nursing mothers or primary caregivers of children or elderly relatives, were detained after the

The guidelines now stipulate that "extraordinary circumstances" should exist, such as the protection of national security or public safety, to warrant detention of such individuals.

Speaking in Portuguese, Borges said that aside from her status as an illegal immigrant with an overdue deportation order, she has never been arrested. She came to the United States in 2006 and was arrested the same year and ordered deported.

Borges, 31, lives with her husband and their son, Pedro, in a modest duplex in Revere. She cleans houses, and her 34-yearold husband, who requested that his name not be published

because he fears deportation, works in construction. He took time off from his job to care for their son after Borges's arrest April 21.

Thursday, his eyes filled with tears after Borges called

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him to say she was being released.

When Borges walked through the front door about 3:30 p.m., he kissed her, hugged her, and then placed Pedro in her outstretched arms. The boy laughed as she gave him a tight embrace.

"I missed you so much ... Every day I was gone I cried because I missed you," Borges said.

Borges said that during her stay in jail, she requested and was given Motrin to alleviate pain associated with the interruption of nursing. While Pedro's diet also consisted of solid foods in past months, Borges said she has continued to nurse him because she believes in the benefits of mother's milk.

Jessica Vaughan, director of policy studies for the Center for Immigration Studies in Washington and an opponent of illegal immigration, said that in these cases, authorities are put in the predicament of trying to ascertain whether detainees are telling the truth or just exploiting the new guidelines.

"But nevertheless, her not abiding by the deportation order makes her a fugitive, and that escalates her legal difficulties," said Vaughan, whose office is in Franklin. "Because she was a fugitive. I suspect that ICE had to detain her because she was a high flight risk." Heloisa Maria Galvao, executive

director of the Brazilian Women's Group in Allston, said she has not heard of any cases similar to Borges's since the raid on the New Bedford factory. "It's really frustrating to hear

this one, because we have worked so hard since then to prevent it from happening," she said.

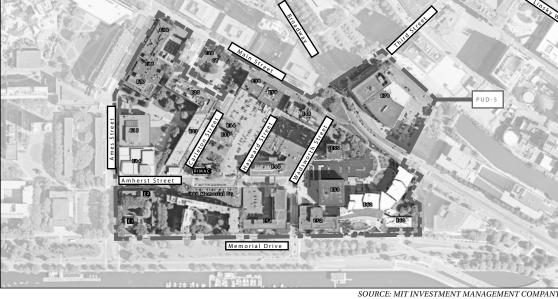
Galvao said she called Borges's husband and told him that her group would work to help them find legal assistance, and he welcomed the offer.

Borges and her husband, who are from Belo Horizonte in the state of Minas Gerais, plan to hire a lawyer in an attempt to become legal US residents. Borges is scheduled for a status hearing Oct. 21. She is required to wear an ankle monitor pending a decision on her case.

LEGAL COUNSEL

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James Dennis Leary, Esq. 321-544-0012



MIT has proposed a new zoning district PUD-5 ("Planned Unit Development 5") that includes most MIT properties east of Ames Street in the Kendall Square area, as well as One Broadway (E70), a commercial office building north of Main Street at the northeast extreme of the district. The district would have a maximum height of 300 feet, though most areas of the district would be restricted to 250 feet, and some to 150 feet. MIT anticipates up to 1.9 million square feet of additional space within the district, including 800,000 square feet of academic and research space, 880,000 square feet of commercial space, with the remainder split between retail and residential.

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In resignation, Lai calls for internal UA changes

UA resignation, from Page 1

as the same lack of cooperation extending to the next administration.

"I've spoken to various leaders quite straightforwardly," said Lai. "My comments were not received in a way that indicated change."

Nonetheless, both Modi and Miramonti were surprised by Lai's letter. "The UA is taking all of Alec's comments into consideration," said Modi. "I personally have taken his concerns seriously, and I am sorry to see him go.'

Lai wrote at length in his resignation letter about an ideal vision for cooperation, and reiterated those sentiments to The Tech.

"One must lead by guidance and inspiration," he said, qualifying the statement more practically by referring to his role as the president of

Next House. "The environment [at Next House] is much more friendly ... we have round table discussions, we compromise," said Lai. "I am not trying to compare the two organizations; they're different scopes, I know, but I believe there are some fundamentals essential to good leadership."

The former secretary general also criticized various UA leaders for their "megalomania, examples of which include excessive micromanagement" and cited an overall "defensive and arrogant psychosocial nature of the UA.

Asked if he had been a supporter of the UA's recent restructuring push, and whether or not Modi's bill would have helped to address some of his concerns, Lai said that "the structure of the UA can change some things but the biggest change must be a psychosocial one."

Notably, Lai's resignation is the latest and most prominent in a series that the UA has seen this year, including several senators, a member of the UA Finboard, and the UA treasurer. "I believe that many of the earlier resignations may have been based — not on the same problems but on similar dissonance," said Lai. This represents a shift from statements made during his campaign, when he and Miramonti attributed the growing number of resignations as by-products of overall growth of the Senate. "I think we will be looking at a younger Senate again next year," continued Lai.

He has shared his perspectives with sympathetic members of the UA. "I have not encouraged anyone to resign," said Lai. "But I believe many of [my sympathizers] would not have continued their terms in the next semester ... a good portion of Senators may be leaving."

Lai is hopeful that undergraduates who have read his letter and agree with his views will try and enact change. "The easiest thing to do for those who understand and care about what I'm saying is to run for Senate and participate in the UA," said Lai. "Yes, I'm giving this advice having resigned, but with my one-year contribution, I believe I've done as much as I could have in my position."

Various undergraduate student groups, particularly living groups, have discussed Lai's letter, particularly with regard to the accusations "megalomania," "blackmail," "manipulation," and "psychosocial arrogance."

"I have seen one or two [of those email threads]," said Lai. According to him, his criticism is not exaggerated; "Those were the best words to clearly describe what I observed."

The vagueness of his comments has also been noted in emails on dorm lists. "It seemed appropriate to me to not mention specifics, out of respect for the administration I was working with," said Lai. "Naming names would not be appropriate in a public letter — that said. I have heard that some people think I'm 'whining' or 'wanking' unnecessarily. I assure you I'm not. At the same time, I'm not going to contribute to flame wars, and everyone is entitled to their own opinion. In fact, I strongly suggest they hold their own opinion."

"My suggestions for Senators is to represent your constituency but at the same time, you're there to represent the [undergraduate] student body at MIT as a whole," said Lai. "Compromise is the true value of student government."



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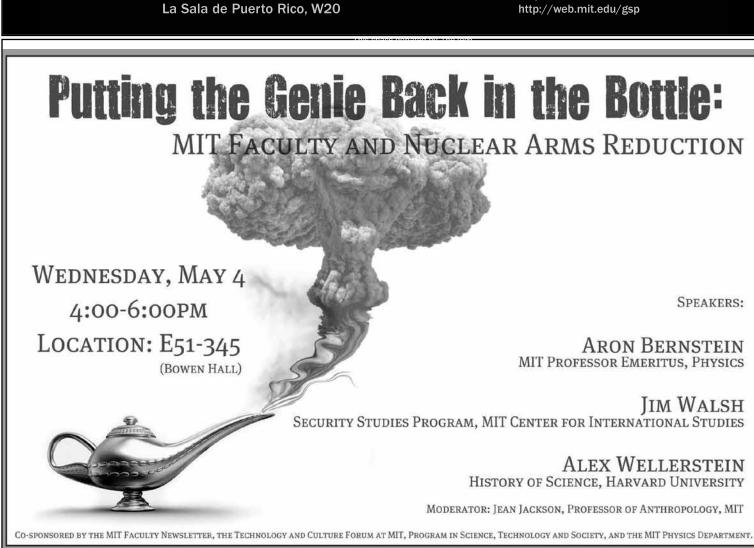
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Wind Screen, installed by Associate Professor of Architecture J. Meejin Yoon for the MIT150 FAST Arts Festival, is on display in the archway below the Green Building. Each subunit is a wind turbine and generates all the energy it needs to light up as it spins. As the wind blows harder, the turbines spin faster and light up



String Tunnel, located next to the Building 18 bridge, was installed by Yuna Kim G, Kelly E. Shaw G, and Travis A. Williams G for the MIT150 FAST Arts Festival. String Tunnel directs visitors to the Infinite Corridor.

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FREE A CAP

Discord in Harvard's Graduate School of Education

Students complain about pattern of tenure denials to professors in diversity, social justice

By Tracy Jan THE BOSTON GLOBE

The recent denial of tenure to a prominent Harvard scholar whose work focuses on grass-roots organizing has sparked student protests over the direction of one of the nation's most influential education schools.

More than 50 doctoral students at the Harvard Graduate School of Education are demanding that the 91-year-old school redirect its mission. Over the last decade, they say, it has veered away from social justice issues in education toward more results-driven management and policy concerns. The students, who are groomed to be national leaders in education, said they fear the shift will hamper their professional development and tarnish the school's

"There is a lot of talk about diversity and wanting to support social change, but recent decisions on tenure have sent very clear signals to the student body and the rest of the junior faculty about where the future of the school lies," said Keith Catone, a fifth-year doctoral student in the community, culture, and education program. "That's not a direction that will help Harvard lead a broad movement for educational improvement."

Since 2003, the school of education has lost a half-dozen professors who specialized in diversity and community involvement because they were denied tenure or recruited by other universities.

The students' concerns, voiced this month during two protests out-

side faculty meetings, prompted the dean of the education school, Kathleen McCartney, to issue a letter Wednesday reaffirming the university's commitment to social justice research and to a method of study called qualitative research, which emphasizes the personal experience of students and their families.

Over recent years, the balance among senior faculty has tilted toward quantitative research, which relies more on data such as test

"I respectfully disagree with the view, voiced by some students and others, that the school is not committed to equity, diversity, and social justice as objects of inquiry," McCart-

Among the school's highest-profile losses are Gary Orfield, founder of the Civil Rights Project, who left for the University of California, Los Angeles, in 2007, and Marcelo and Carola Suarez-Orozco, both of whom study immigration and now teach at New York University. All three were wooed away by the other universities. Orfield, whose research is widelv cited, is a leader in studying equal opportunity for minority groups.

And then, this month, Mark Warren, a sociologist studying community organizing in school reform, was rejected for tenure, the third professor focused on equity issues to be denied tenure in the last three years.

However, McCartney said that on her watch four faculty members whose research specializes in educational equity have been hired, including two with tenure. In addition,

at least three other education professors focus on equity, immigration, and race or social class issues as they relate to educational opportunity.

McCartney said she agrees with students who feel the school does not have enough senior faculty using qualitative methods of research and vowed to recruit a scholar who conducts such work. The search will begin in the fall, and she said she has already generated a list of potential recruits.

"It is an area we need to strengthen," she said in an interview. "But, just to be clear, there are so many areas we need to strengthen," including programs on international education and technology in education.

McCartney said she is doing additional outreach to junior faculty members to see how she can better support their work.

The education school currently has 75 full-time faculty members, 25 of whom are tenured. Of its 900 students, 294 are enrolled in the doctoral program.

McCartney said she is unable to address Warren's tenure case, which is confidential, but senior professors who voted on whether his case should move forward to the next level of approval emphasized the notorious difficulty of getting tenure at

Reached by email, Warren, who once led the dean's advisory committee on equity and diversity, expressed disappointment at the result of his tenure case.

"The work I do on community organizing has an essential contribution to make to addressing the problems facing our public education system and I am disappointed to see that it does not have a place at Harvard," he said.

In the Graduate School of Education, only about 20 percent of faculty receive tenure, a figure the school is trying to improve through better mentoring, said Bridget Terry Long, a Harvard economist who studies inequality in college access.

"I certainly understand the students being alarmed, and there's no question the school's got to do better in getting more qualitative researchers here," Long said. "But the tenure process is difficult, and I wish it had turned out differently. But it has nothing to do with the lack of respect for the type of work that Mark does."

Long said she is concerned Warren's tenure denial will make it more difficult for Harvard to recruit scholars in his field.

"It's vitally important that we're going to have to take this seriously," Long said. "I'm sure someone's thinking: 'Why would I go to that place? It's clear they don't value that kind of work.' There's the reality of what we care about as a school, and then there's the perception."

Students said they will continue their protests until graduation next month if necessary. They will hand out fliers and hold up signs and banners saying things like: "What does this say about what's dispensable?"

They assert that it is just as important for education school graduates to understand what is happening at the ground level in families and

communities as it is for them to understand the perspectives of voices at the top when it comes to topics such as charter schools, the small schools movement, and vouchers.

"Without this knowledge, we aren't adequately prepared to go out and lead education reform," said Meredith Mira, a fifth-year doctoral student. She said she came to Harvard hoping to study with at least four professors in the cultures, communities, and education program, three of whom are now either gone or in the process of leaving the school.

"It's incredibly demoralizing," Mira said. "The ed school can take their agenda where they want it to go, but it becomes misleading for students in concentrations like cultures, communities, and education to get there and the people they want to study with are slipping away."

Orfield said his move was prompted by several reasons, including UCLA's promise of substantial support for the Civil Rights Project, such as free space and a "good group of colleagues" for him to work with. Harvard, by contrast, did not provide financial support, he said.

Orfield said he is watching with great interest the protests.

"I do think Harvard needs to make some appointments in that area, and of course they have pledged for a long time they were going to do that, but there has not been very much success," Orfield said. "If they get a reputation for treating people who do this kind of thing badly, then that creates a great obstacle."

Team up with your FSILG or dorm to make an impact. Together.

Congratulations to Sigma Alpha Epsilon 2011 Service Cup winners!

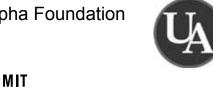
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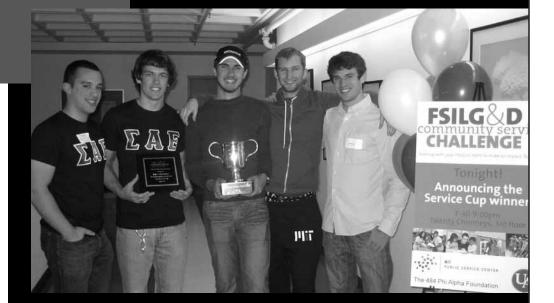


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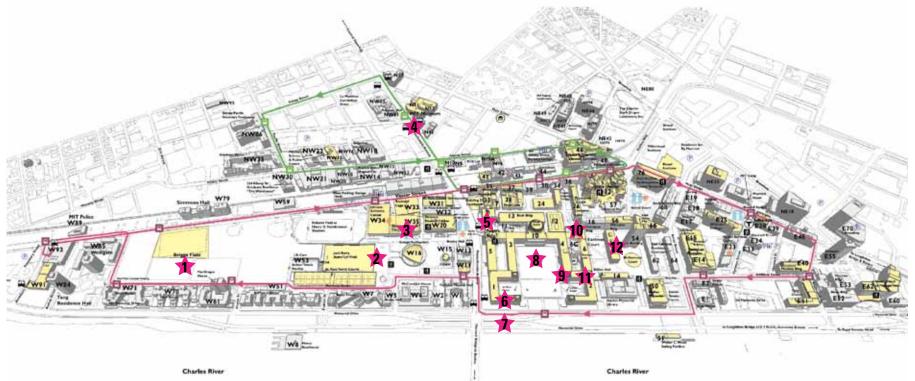


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NATIONAL CRIME PREVENTION COUNCIL

Open house events: The Tech's picks



- 11am 1pm: Rhode Island Army National Guard ROTC UH-60 Blackhawk fly-in. Briggs Field
- 1pm 1pm: Welcome and Greetings from Cambridge Mayor David Maher and MIT President Susan Hockfield. W34
- 11am 4pm: Celebrating discovery at MIT: an undergraduate research poster session. W33
- 🛊 11am 4pm: MIT Museum inside out. N51
- 11am 4pm: Aeronautics and astronautics Newman Hangar displays. 33 Seamans Lab
- 11am 4pm: Timeline of MIT engineering. 1-206

- 11am 4pm: The gravity-defying lapping of a house cat. 1-135
- 11am 4pm: Compton Gallery MIT150 exhibition. 10-150
- 1pm 4pm: Stopping time at the Edgerton Center. 4-410
- 11am 1pm: MIT150 welcome lounge. 16-110
- 11am 4pm: The materials science of ice cream. 6-104
- 11am 4pm: Campus construction: past and future. 56-191



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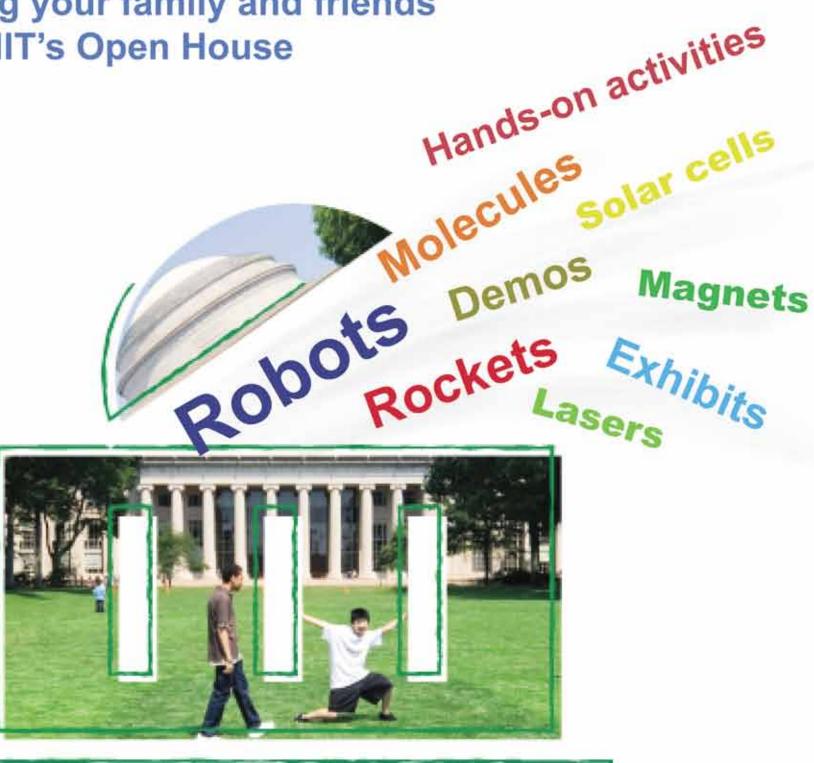
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SATURDAY APRIL 30 11AM-4PM

For a list of activities, visit mit150.mit.edu/open-house





MIT triathlon team competes at USAT Nationals

Twelve Engineers race in Alabama as team prepares for New England Season Opener

By Jim Schuchart

On April 9, 12 of MIT's triathletes traveled to Tuscaloosa, Ala., to participate in the USA Triathlon (USAT) Collegiate National Championship against triathlon teams from all over the country. The Olympic-distance triathlon consisted of a 1,500-meter swim in the Black Warrior River, a 40-kilo-

meter bike, and a 10-kilometer run near the University of Alabama's



campus. The MIT women's delegation was led by Shaena R. Berlin '13, who finished with a time of 2 hours, 39 minutes, 45 sec-

onds. Only three spots behind her was Diana Siegel G with a time of 2:40:25. The team MVP award was given to Matthieu J. Talpe '11, who finished the course with a blistering time of 2:14:30, the best time on the MIT team.

Despite a cold swim to start the morning, with river temperatures around 59°F at 7 a.m., the day turned to out be a warm one. The men finished their day around 9:30 a.m. with temperatures still in the high 70s, but the women started three hours later and were

forced to battle heat and humidity throughout the race. As the sun climbed, temperatures rose to over 90°F and humidity remained high. Triathletes took extra hydration and energy gels to fight off cramps amid the brutal conditions. "It was the most exciting triathlon I've ever done, by far," claimed first-time triathlete Samuel M. Nicaise G. Overall, the weekend was heralded as a smashing success, as all

12 MIT racers finished.

For the MIT Triathlon team, the National Championships marks the beginning of the race season after a long winter of indoor training. Many regional races continue throughout the summer, with the New England Season Opener kicking off the season on May 8 and the Northeast Collegiate Triathlon Conference season officially running from August to October.



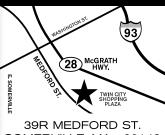
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PUBLIC SERVICE CENTER

Lacrosse clinches playoff spot

By Sarah Weir

 $TEAM\,REPRESENTATIVE$

The MIT Women's Lacrosse team beat Wheaton 14-10 on Mon-

day in a pivotal match on Roberts Field. The Engineers dominated in the first half, with only three turnovers and a total of 21 shots to Wheaton's

10. Kathleen M. Kauffman '12 and Laura M. Wacker '13 scored MIT's first five goals, with Wheaton's Tess Meyer and Katie Powers each finding the goal for a 5-2 score to begin the game. However, Wheaton was then unable to respond, and the Engineers brought the half to an end with five unanswered goals and a 10-2 score.

At the start of the second half, Wacker scored a quick goal, making it seem like the momentum from the first half was going to carry through. However, Wheaton came back strong and took advantage of draw controls and some turnovers by the Engineers. In 10 minutes, they man-

aged to bring the score to 13-7, but MIT was able to hold them off for the rest of the game, which ended with a final score of 14-10.

As a result of this win, the Engineers have secured the third seed in the New England Women's and Men's Athletic Conference (NEW-MAC) tournament, behind first seed Springfield and second seed Babson. This Saturday, they will play in a semifinal game against Babson. If they win, they advance to the NEW-MAC finals on Sunday, which will be held at Springfield.

UPCOMING HOME EVENTS

Saturday, April 30

Women's Openweight Crew — Beanpot Regatta Women's Lightweight Crew — Murl Cup

Sailing — Geiger Cup

Men's Tennis vs. Babson College

Sunday, May 1

Men's Heavyweight Crew — Jablonic Cup

9 a.m., Charles River 10 a.m., Charles River 10 a.m., Charles River

Noon, DuPont Courts

9 a.m., Charles River

